



Newsletter Autumn Term 1 | Monday 5th September 2022



WELCOME BACK

It has been lovely to welcome back all of our children, families and staff today after the summer break. The staff have enjoyed catching up with our Y4, 5 and 6 children and meeting our new Y3 children, who have already started the week really successfully. A special welcome to our new class teachers, Miss Pickwell and Miss Holmes, and new teaching assistant, Mrs Khan.

Over the summer, we have had some work undertaken on the IT network and WiFi, which should help our school systems work more efficiently and allow the children to make good use of our Chromebook suites often.

Staff have worked hard to make the school welcoming for the children, and will continue to do this over the coming days and weeks. They also have lots of exciting things planned for the coming term. Some dates are included in this newsletter, but please read the year group newsletter your child will bring home today and keep a look out on our Twitter feed (@SitwellSchool) and Marvellous Me for school, year group and class updates.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



01.09.22 INSET DAY

02.09.22 INSET DAY

15.09.22 Y6 VISIT TO CRUCIAL CREW

Y4 VISIT TO ROYAL ARMOURIES

19.09.22 INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

19.10.22 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

20.10.22 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

24.10.22 - 28.10.22 HALF TERM BREAK

31.10.22 INSET DAY

01.11.22 FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM 2

14.11.22 ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

ROAD SAFETY WEEK

18.11.22 CHILDREN IN NEED

16.11.22 FLU VACCINATIONS

19.12.22 - 02.01.23 CHRISTMAS BREAK

03.01.23 FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM 1

PLATINUM SCHOOL GAMES MARK

We are really pleased to share with you the news that we have achieved the Platinum School Games Mark. A huge thank you to Mr Cassell, our PE Leader, the children, and everyone else who has helped us earn this award. We are one of only a handful of schools in Rotherham to hold this prestigious award.



Phonics and Reading for Pleasure



During our INSET days, all staff received training on our new phonics scheme, Read Write Inc. as well as Reading for Pleasure. As a school, we have always put reading at the heart of our curriculum, which was positively commented on during our recent OfSTED inspection, and we will continue to emphasise the importance of reading on every child's progress. Over the coming weeks, you will hear more about phonics and reading for pleasure from your child's class teacher and our English Leader, Mrs Elliott.

Fundraising

As many of you know, at the beginning of the last academic year, we sadly lost a well-loved member of staff, Miss Emma Longstaff, who was a class teacher and Assistant Headteacher. During last year, we held a number of fundraising events in her memory: a picnic for the children and cake sale, an afternoon tea for parents and a summer fayre for the whole school community. We really appreciate your support and involvement in these events. Each event was a huge success and we raised a grand total of £2079, which will be shared between two charities chosen by Miss Longstaff's family; Pancreatic Cancer UK and the Northern General Hospital's Palliative Care Unit.



Some of the money has also been spent on a friendship bench and plaque for the playground, which can be enjoyed by children during playtimes and lunchtimes.

If you would like to help the school with our fundraising, and other community activities, you could join our PTA, Friends of Sitwell, as we are always looking for new members. For more information about how to get involved, please talk to Mrs Doughty or Mrs Nixon.

School Meals Provider

As explained before the summer break, we will now be using a new caterer, ABM Catering through their Primary Education brand 'Grow'. Our office staff and colleagues from ABM have been working hard over the summer putting all of the preparation in place to ensure this transition runs as smoothly as possible. However, there are likely to be some teething problems so we ask for your patience and that you bear with us during this time.

Ordering and paying for your child's school dinners couldn't be simpler. You will be able to view the menus, order meals (up to a term in advance) and pay all in one place - on ParentPay. As we are a cashless school this is where you will also pay for breakfast club, after school clubs, trips and uniform. Year 3 parents that have returned the pupil data collection forms will receive an activation letter via email, which includes a username and password. Y4-6 parents should already have access to the system. If you have changed any of your contact details, please inform the school office on 01709 531867 or email info@sitwelljunior.uk.

