



Newsletter 2026-2027 No.1 - 4th September



Welcome Back

We hope you had a lovely Summer break and your child was looking forward to coming back. We have been delighted with the start to the term. The children have been fantastic and there is a lovely, calm atmosphere across the whole school. It has been lovely to welcome our new Reception children in both John Coles and Neeld Class, and to all the new pupils who have joined in other year groups. We now have 9 classes, and it has been lovely to see the straight year groups in our mainstream classes - and we are so pleased to re-instate Peel Class for our Y6s.

New School Year Changes

New staff:

We welcome Mrs Lawrence to our teaching staff. She will be teaching in Neeld on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

We also welcome 3 new Teaching Assistants to our team:

Mrs Ovens will be in Peel (Y6)

Ms Berry will be in Wren (Y1) and John Coles (Rec)

Miss Hibberd will be in Neeld Class.

Mrs Meikelreid has returned from maternity leave - welcome back. Although, congratulations to her as she is now expecting her second child and will be with us until the end of Term 2 before commencing maternity leave from January. Mrs McKay will return from her maternity leave in November, so there will be upcoming changes in Brunel Class and we will keep you informed in Term 2.

Mrs Wilkins has now started her role as Deputy Headteacher and SENCO, and Mrs Gray-Clark has started her new role as Resource Base Manager and SENCO.

This year the weekly newsletters will be fortnightly - commencing Friday 11th September. When children are in Good Work Assembly, and/or receive leaves, all names will be included from the fortnight before each newsletter.

Summer Reading Challenge

If your child has completed the Summer Reading Challenge they can bring their certificates into school next Tuesday - 9th September and we will celebrate their achievements with them in assembly.

Bikeability - Y6

All Year 6s have the opportunity to take part in Bikeability. This will take place on 24th and 25th September. If you would like your child to take part, please complete the consent form which has already been sent to you via email.

Meet the Teacher

Over the next few weeks there will be an opportunity to meet the teacher and hear about some of the expectations for each class. These are all at 2.40pm in the classrooms:

08/09 - Brunel (Y3)

14/09 - Maud Heath (Y4) and Priestley (Y5)

15/09 - King Alfred (Y2) and Peel (Y6)

There will be a separate meeting for John Coles and Wren with a focus on Reading and Phonics. These are yet to be confirmed.

A reminder....Dogs on Site

As you know, dogs are not permitted on site. There are 2 exceptions to this rule. Our Therapy Dogs - Elin and Eira, accompanied by Mel, who support small groups of children each Friday. And in addition - Honey - who is there purely to support one of our pupils in Y4 at the start and end of the day. Honey will always be carried by the parent and is trained to not respond to people/crowds - therefore we kindly request that, as cute as she is, you don't approach Honey to say 'hello' - Thank you.

Changes to Free School Meals

Free School Meal entitlement has changed, and anyone who is on Universal Credit can apply for Free School Meals. Even though children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 can choose to have a free meal already, we will receive additional funding if those who are entitled to Free School Meals still complete the application form. Anyone who applies for the first time will receive a £50 voucher towards uniform and trips. Please apply through Wiltshire Council website.

IMPORTANT:

IF you have previously applied for Free School Meal status, you may have noticed this has now ceased due to the changes. It is really important that you re-apply through Wiltshire Council to ensure your FSM entitlement continues. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask in the school office. Thank you.

