 **Fidlers Well**

##  Bamford

 **Hope Valley**

 **S33 0AR**

3rd September 2019

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Dear Parents,

May we take the opportunity of welcoming you all back to school for the new school year and for some of you, a very warm welcome to Bamford Primary School. We hope that you are rested and well.

We wish Lucy Wilman well on her continued journey into teaching, having successfully completed her teacher training with us last year. This year we welcome Patrick Hallworth who is joining our staff as a PGCE Placement Student whilst studying through the Teach Direct teacher training route. He will be working mainly in Class Ash with Mrs Champan.

We would also like to thank David Butler for giving his time to audit our Private School Accounts so well over the past few years and has decided that now is the time to stop this role. We urgently need someone financially minded to take over this voluntary role. Please let us know if you, or someone you know might be able to help us with this. This involves auditing our Private School Accounts (not the entire budget) and as such, is not a major time commitment.

We will be sending out a lot of information over the next few weeks so please do take the time to read and digest it all. Please be reminded that letters are sent via email to reduce our costs and to support our commitment to the environment. If you are ***unable*** *to access* email or the internet, please let the office know and we will arrange paper copies. We continue to use Text Messaging and DOJO for communications. Our website is also where official information is provided (Policies, school data, important dates etc)

**Clubs and extra-curricular activities.**

All clubs will restart from Monday 9th September 2019 apart from Breakfast Club, which is already up and running and Homework club which will start this Friday (6th September)

**Breakfast Club** – Drop your child off at the lower building from 7.45am every morning. Children are given a healthy breakfast, child-led play and taken to their class at the start of the day. Contact the office if you would like to book in.

**Sports Club** – Mrs Bland will be running a Junior Sports Club after school 3.30 - 4.30 on Wednesdays. This is a club with limited spaces and will cost £3.55 per session or £24.85 for the half term with permission slips and payment through Parent Pay. Please let the office know if your child would like to attend.

**Extra-Time** will be now be running Multi-sports on Thursdays starting Thursday 12th September and finishes November 7th). Classes cost £3.55 a session. This is a club with limited spaces and is open to children of all ages (children will need to sign up for the half term at a cost of £28.40 payable to Extra Time via Parent Pay).

**Choir** – Unfortunately we have a vacancy for a choir master following Sue Firth’s departure. We are trying to find someone willing to take on board this role (at a time convenient to them) but unfortunately we do not yet have a solution. Therefore, until we have resolved this, there will be no choir.

**Drama** – Junior Drama club will be continuing on a Monday after school until 4.30pm starting Monday the 9th September for Y3-Y6. Classes cost £3.55 (£21.30; no drama on 30th Sept, payable to H Rutter via Parent Pay). Please sign-up ASAP.

**Morning Maths** –This invitation club is aimed at Y6 and Y5 and will normally run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings starting at 8.10am. This session is free and we strongly advise **all Y6 to attend**. This club is subject to cancellation when Mrs Gemmell is away from school. Short notice paid places at Breakfast Club will be available when this happens. It will start week commencing Monday 9th September.

**Running Club** – Due to injuries, running club will potentially start again after Christmas. However, if there any parents who would like to volunteer for this please let us know and we could maybe start up again sooner! Running Club usually takes place on Wednesday lunch times and is open to all Junior children (Y3-Y6) – again, this date and time can change to suit those offering support!

**Story Keepers** – The Methodist church runs an after school club for all children aged 6 and over. It runs on a Wednesday after school until 5pm and last year it cost 50p a session. A member of staff will walk the infants round. This is independent of school and you will need to speak to them directly to book your child in. As far as we are aware it will start on Wednesday 11thSeptember.

**Homework Club** – Mrs Gemmell and Mr Friend will run an afterschool homework club which is free to attend and open to all junior pupils. Please note, there is an expectation that children attending will undertake quiet homework during the session and support is available from Mrs Gemmell/Mr Friend. Permission slips are required. If a junior child attends, younger siblings may also attend by agreement with Mrs Gemmell. The club will start on Friday 6thSeptember (3.30 – 4.30)

**Doodle Club** – Mrs Chapman will be starting a Doodle club on Tuesdays from 3.30-4.15pm. Open to all ages and will be free to attend.

**Dance Club** – Miss Allsop will be running a free Dance club for Y2 – Y6 children on Thursdays from 3.30 - 4.30pm (places limited). Please call the office to secure a place.

**Other Curriculum News**

**Gardening Club:** The children will continue their excellent work on Friday afternoons. The next major project will be the pond; watch this space!

If you have some older childrens wellies (Y5/6) to donate they would be very welcome. We are holding a family and friends gardening morning on **Saturday 7th September 10-12**. All welcome, no skills or tools required. Old clothes a good idea. The 7th is also the date of the Bamford’s Bounty (Fruit and Veg swap at the Angler’s Rest) and the school fundraising paper collection.

**Swimming**: All Y3 & Y4 children will receive swimming lessons this year at Hathersage Open Air swimming pool on Monday Mornings. This is part of their curriculum and is not viewed as optional. Due to planned maintenance work at the pool, we are waiting to find out whether we will be offered some sessions this Autumn in addition to summer sessions which are already booked.

**Instrument Tuition**: We offer the following music tuition, violin, clarinet and brass, guitar and Piano. Payment is direct to the music teachers. If you would want your child to play an instrument please let the office know. All instruments will start next week (9th September).

**Music:** Jane Taylor will be teaching the junior children Music this year on a Wednesday afternoon. She will deliver the National Curriculum for Music and will also be providing all children with an introduction to playing an instrument through the Derbyshire County Council Wider Opportunities Scheme which was very successful last year when the Juniors were able to learn flute and clarinet. This year, the children have voted for the clarinet. This activity is supported by part funding through the PTFA to ensure all our children experience quality music tuition.

**School Times**

Please can we remind all parents that it is important that all children arrive at school promptly for the start of their day. The doors will be open to children at 8:40 and school starts at 08:45. Registration closes at 09:00 after which time, please bring your child to the school office. School finishing times are staggered to allow children to be collected safely.

Oak Class 15:15

Beech Class 15:20

Ash and Willow classes 15:30

Afternoon Playtime: the children receive a 10 minute active break during the afternoon. This is staggered and allows the teachers to break at an appropriate time in the learning. The afternoon break normally takes place between 14:00 and 14:30

**School Dinners**

Mrs Mason, our school cook continues to produce delicious school dinners, cooked fresh on-site daily. All children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) until the end of Y2. For children in Y3-Y6, the daily charge is £2.10 Payment should be made through Parent Pay. This half term is 8 weeks long with an inset day on Tuesday 3rd September.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 day per week | £16.80 | 4 days per week | £67.20 |
| 2 days per week | £33.60 | 5 days per week | £84.00 |
| 3 days per week | £50.40 |  |  |

Subtract £4.20 from the total if you child has dinner on a Monday or Tuesdsay (No school on Monday and Tuesday 2nd and 3rd Sept).

We ask that parents commit to regular dinner patterns and two weeks’ notice of change is required.

Children in who are eligible for Free School Meals (including UFSM) are assumed to require a school meal every day. Please let us know if this is not the case. Please note that you are expected to pay for your school dinners in advance or at the very least, to keep your debt below £20. It would be very helpful if you could aim to pre-pay the majority of dinners so that you only have to reconcile a small amount of debt at the end of each half term as this saves us a lot of administrative work and resources.

**New Uniforms**

If you have gone to put on uniforms only to find your child has grown over the summer we will be placing another order for fulfillment as soon as possible. Please send forms to the office by Monday 17th September and make payment on Parent Pay.

**Peak Time**

Parents who require more substantial afterschool care are encouraged to use the Peak Time Club (http://www.peaktime.org.uk). We have received great feedback from users of this service. We have a new app to replace the ‘bus list’. Please use the following link to download it: <https://heja.io/download/IK696339>

Please use the schedule to select the days you wish to use the bus. It is vital that if your child is meant to be on the Peak Time bus, that their name is added to the list. This will need to be done every week.

We cannot let children go to Peak Time if their name isn’t on the list and your child risks missing the bus if their name is not on the list. Lists are held in each building, and the lists are up for the whole half term. If you have forgotten to cross your child off the list, please leave a message on the school answer machine by 14:00.

**Off-Site Visits**

An annual consent form was sent home with your child at the end of last school year. If you have not yet returned it to school, please do so by Friday 14th September 2018.

**PE Kit and Uniform**

All children should have a PE kit at school **at all times**. It should include: pumps / trainers, a white t-shirt, blue/black shorts, blue/black leggings or joggers and a lightweight blue jumper or fleece. The leggings and fleece are important as the provide warmth but also protection against injury and are used during outdoor PE. Long hair should also be tied back and earrings removed. We have a box of spare PE kit which will be ‘loaned’ to your child if they do not have a suitable PE kit.

Can I remind all parents that we would like all children to wear the school’s uniform, a copy of which is on the website.

**Derbyshire Healthy Schools**

We have accreditation for being a Derbyshire Healthy School. We are therefore keen to promote healthy snacks only during the school day. If you do send a snack in, please can you ensure that it is healthy. Children are not allowed to bring in sweets, chocolate or any other sugar-based products (including fruit winders etc). We encourage fruit or a bread-based snack. Infant children are offered fresh fruit free of charge on a daily basis and snack is served for a small contribution in Oak Class.

Your child should also have a water bottle (containing water) and we encourage them to drink regularly throughout the day. Research has proven that children who are well hydrated are ready to learn.

**Coats**

**Please ensure that your child has a coat at school every day**. They are normally expected to go outside at playtime for fresh air and exercise even when it is cold or wet.

**Forest Schools**

Mrs Coulson and Ms Gartside continue to provide our children with Forest Schools. The infants will undertake this on a Friday afternoon through a rota system. We need donations of outdoor gear (waterproof coats and trousers) – if you have any that you no longer need, we would welcome donations.

**Other dates for your diary:**

Inset days: 3rd September 2019; 14th February, **29th June** and 20th and 21st July 2020.

Sporting Dates – to be released as soon as confirmed by HVC

Lea Green Residential for Y6’s – 15th-19th June 2020

Revenstor Residential for Y4/5’s – 1st-3rd July 2020

Kind Regards



Kate Gemmell

Headteacher