



Myton Park
Primary School

Together we Nurture, Inspire and Achieve

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Headteacher – Mrs Janis Williams

15th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had an amazing start to the new school year. The children all look very smart in their uniforms and have settled well into their new routines, particularly our youngest children in Reception, as we return to a more normal way of working. It was an absolute joy to come together as a school for assembly and to hear the children sing.

Our first residential visit since the relaxing of restrictions took place last week with our Year 6 children travelling to Robinwood. Everyone had an amazing time, it was wonderful to see so many happy, if not tired faces arrive back at school on Friday. Next week we hand the baton to Year 5 as they travel to Castle Howard for their Bushcraft residential.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a several updates rather than send a number of individual letters.

Carpark

Our car park is now back to capacity and as part of the building work the carpark lines have been refreshed. This clearly identifies parking spaces, disabled bays and the drop off point. We do not have a large car park and as I understand, it was not designed to cater for whole school parking but to accommodate staff and visitors. To support parents who do need to drop children before travelling to work and to keep our children safe, from Monday 20th September 2021 we will be fully operating the drop off zone every morning for children in Key Stage 2. There will be no parking in this area, cars will pull in, safely drop off children and pull away, a member of staff will be present each day to support. Younger children will still need to be accompanied into school. Please do not use the disabled parking bays unless by prior arrangement with myself as we have children who arrive and depart via school transport and use these bays as they are close to the entrance. Hopefully, this should ease congestion on a morning, we will review the effectiveness of this system and are keen to hear your views.

Attendance

Following the return to school in March attendance was again mandatory for all. Bubble closures and isolations impacted attendance across school for a number of children as we worked together to stem the spread of Coronavirus. The change in government guidance from August means that all children under the age of 18.5 and adults who have been double jabbed no longer need to isolate. This will support continuous schooling, unless we are advised differently in the event of a Covid outbreak.

Despite the pandemic, attendance at the end of last year was 97%, an amazing achievement. We know that regular attendance at school is vital and so we will be monitoring attendance at regular points across the year. Where a child's attendance falls below 95% or punctuality is a persistent issue, you will receive a letter advising you of attendance concerns or you may be invited into school for a meeting to explore the reasons for absence. At this stage you will be asked to supply medical evidence for all absences until attendance reaches 95%, this could be a doctor's appointment slip or receipt from a pharmacy. Without this, all future absence will be marked as unauthorised. Any child who accrues eight sessions of unauthorised absence in a ten

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	2 Weeks	54 Lessons
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	4 Weeks	114 Lessons
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	6 Weeks	174 Lessons
80%	38 Days	72 Sessions	8 Weeks	228 Lessons
75%	48 Days	96 Sessions	10 Weeks	288 Lessons
70%	57 Days	114 Sessions	11.5 Weeks	342 Lessons
65%	67 Days	134 Sessions	13.5 Weeks	402 Lessons

week period will be referred to the Local Authority Attendance Team which may result in the issuing of a fixed penalty notice. We do fully understand that there are circumstances where there may be absence due to medical appointments and/or treatment and this will of course be considered. Please try to make general appointments such as dental check ups outside of school hours.

All leave of absence requests during term time for holidays will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances and again will be referred for a fixed penalty notice. Please be aware, that only the school, within the context of the law can authorise absence. For further details please see our Attendance Policy which can be found on the website, if required the office can provide hard copies. If you have any specific concerns, please contact me directly and I will be more than happy to talk through these.

Data Forms

Attached to this letter are the annual data update forms. Can you please complete these and return them to school by Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at the latest so we can check our records are fully up to date. From a safeguarding perspective, we must have at least two contacts for your child, please contact school if you have any issues with this.

We are aware from time to time, that due to circumstances arrangements are made for different people to collect children from school. Where this occurs can you please ensure you contact school in advance or if it is a regular arrangement add an additional person to the contact list. If we do not receive advanced notification or the person collecting is not on the contact list we will not release your child from school. Older children will receive a consent letter for you to sign to allow them to walk home alone. I am sure you understand that the safeguarding of your children is paramount.

MarvellousMe

We're thrilled be using MarvellousMe to tell you about the wonderful things your child is doing, and to celebrate their achievements. This allows you to share and engage in meaningful conversations about their learning and celebrate their successes.



Teachers will send activity messages out each week, sharing work that has been completed in school, including a weekly reading update. Attached to this newsletter is your child's individual login, so you can receive messages and see their reward badges. It is easy to navigate and you can respond by sending Hi5s back. Each child has one unique code, however, families can use this code multiple times so everyone can engage with the learning.

You will see a number of quick links which we will add to as we develop this resource. Currently, there is a link to our website and an online reading record for your child's year group. We will be using this online version rather than written reading records this year to create a more efficient system for all. When you click on the reading link you will see three sections to add comments, along with some prompts to guide your responses. We would still like you to record each time you read with your child, however, we don't expect anything more than a brief comment.

If you need any help getting started, let us know. We will add further information onto the website under the parents tab.

Rights Respecting School

This year we are beginning our work towards becoming a UNICEF Rights Respecting School. You will receive more information about this in due course. The first stage in this journey is to become Rights Aware, we are hoping to achieve this by Christmas. Mr Lamb is leading this project and has planned the first eleven rights we will focus on as 'Right of the Month', we will share this will parents so can talk to your child about this. September's Right of the Month is:





Article 28

You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

Diary Dates

- Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st September 2021 Year 5 Buschcraft residential
- Friday 23rd October 2021 School finishes for half term
- Monday 1st November 2021 School returns after half term
- Wednesday 1st December 2021 Flu immunisation in school (provisional)
- Friday 17th December 2021 School finishes for Christmas holidays
- Tuesday 4th January 2022: Bank Holiday for Platinum Jubilee
- Wednesday 5th January 2022: Professional Development Day
- Thursday 5th January 2022: Children return to school
- Friday 18th February 2022: School finishes for half term
- Monday 28th February 2022: Children return to school
- Friday 8th April 2022 School finishes for Easter
- Monday 25th April 2022 Children return to school
- Monday 2nd May 2022 Bank Holiday
- Monday 9th May 2022 Year 6 SATs Week
- Monday 16th May 2022 Professional Development Day
- Friday 27th May 2022 School finishes for half term
- Monday 6th June 2022 School returns after half term
- Monday 6th June 2022 Phonic Screening takes place for Year 1
- Monday 13th/20th June 2022 Multiplication Tables Check takes place for Year 4
- Friday 24th June 2022 Professional Development Day
- Thursday 21st July 2022 School finishes for the Summer

As further events and activities are arranged we will update this list.

It has been lovely seeing you all on the yard without masks and I am looking forward to getting to know you all better now restrictions have eased. To further enhance communication with you I will be sending home a half termly newsletter to keep you all up to date with events in school. If you have any questions in the meantime please direct these through your child's class teacher or if it is wider school issue please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Janis Williams
Headteacher



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