



20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of our first half term, there are a few key points to communicate and reminders to support us all going forward into the next half term.

**Items within the letter:**

- School Uniform
- Morning Start Times
- Site Safety
- My Child At School (MCAS)
- Parents/Carers and School Partnership
- Dates for Autumn

**School Uniform**

From October 31<sup>st</sup> 2022, after half term, pupils will be required to wear Winter uniform. This is:

<b>RECEPTION to YEAR 4</b>	Gold polo shirt (with logo) Grey pinafore dress or grey school skirt, grey school shorts or grey school trousers Grey V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan (with logo) Grey tights or grey socks (plain) Sensible <b>black school shoes</b> Pupils should have a <b>School Book Bag</b> (with logo)
<b>YEAR 5 &amp; YEAR 6</b>	Plain white school shirt and Gold school tie Grey pinafore dress, grey school skirt, grey school shorts or grey school trousers Grey V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan (with logo) Grey tights or grey socks (plain) Sensible <b>black school shoes</b> Pupils should have a <b>School Rucksack</b> (with logo)
<b>PE KIT (all Year groups)</b>	<b>School PE Kit is to be worn to school on PE days (these have been advised by the class teacher)</b> White T-shirt with logo and plain black PE shorts Plain white socks (no grey socks or tights to be worn for PE) Black zipped-sweatshirt (with logo) and plain black tracksuit bottoms  <b>Black trainers</b> (if plimsolls are worn for PE, children should wear their school shoes and then change)  <b>**It is important that pupils wear the correct kit for PE as they will be outside, unless the weather is severe, and may get dirty. Pupils should not be wearing uniform items for PE.</b>

Please check the website for full information regarding our uniform policy. This also outlines the wearing of jewellery. It is important to remember that we ask children not to wear any jewellery in school, for safety reasons.

However, if your child has pierced ears then one **small, plain gold or silver stud** may be worn in each ear. No other types of earrings are acceptable.

*We ask parents/carers to remove children's earrings on P.E. days. Staff are NOT responsible for the removal or covering of earrings and the school WILL NOT take responsibility for any injury or loss.*

Plain, simple analogue watches may also be worn by children from Year 3 upwards. These must be removed for PE and the school WILL NOT take any responsibility for any injury or loss. No other types of watch (e.g. digital, sports watch or Fitbit etc) are acceptable.

## Morning Start Time

A reminder that the school day **starts at 08.55am** (Registration) and all children should be in class by this time. The school gate opens at 08.40am to allow children to come into school earlier, completing morning activities and preparing for the day ahead. Many teachers complete the register as children come into class to ensure a prompt start to learning or collective worship at 09.00am.

After Half Term, the school gate will promptly close at 08.55am and any child coming into school after this time will need to enter via the main reception to ensure they are correctly registered. Children arriving on the school site after 08.55am will be marked as late.

Parents/Carers are also reminded not to stop at the classroom door to talk to teachers between 8.40am – 8.55am as teachers are supervising and supporting children at this time. If you have an informal message for your child's class teacher, this can be shared on ClassDojo – if it is urgent, please go to the school office and the message will be passed to the teacher for you.

## Site Safety & One Way System

One good thing to come from the past two years was a rethink of how we managed the flow of 'traffic' around the narrow paths of our school site. Following parent consultation, it was agreed that the one-way system would remain and it has been working extremely well.

A reminder that parents/carers and children should be **entering via the KS2 gate**, along Polhill Avenue, and through the KS2 playground. Access is then via the outside of the school to the Reception area, KS2 building (Years 4-6) and onto the remainder of the school where classroom doors lead onto the footpath. The KS1 and main pedestrian gates should be used to EXIT ONLY and parents/carers should not be going against the flow to access the KS1 classrooms.

We recognise that for some parents/carers this is not always the shortest route but it does ensure safety for all parents/carers and children. We are working hard to model a code of conduct of **Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe** to our children and we ask that parents/carers also follow this in order to support the whole school community.

We fully encourage children, and parents/carers, to cycle or scooter to school. There is a cycle rack for storage of bikes and scooters on entry to the school. Once on the school premises, children and/or siblings are not permitted to ride bikes or scooters around the school site to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

## MyChildatSchool (MCAS) & Updated Parent/Carer Information

All parents/carers should have access to an MCAS account. If you do not have an account please contact the school office on: [office@sjr.beds.olicatschols.org](mailto:office@sjr.beds.olicatschols.org) to inform them and they will ensure that an account is created. Once the account has been created you will receive an invitation code for you to activate the account. We are in the process of moving towards a central parent/carers communication system via MCAS – we already use MCAS to book Consultation Evenings and later on this academic year will be looking to use this platform for booking dinners and making payments etc. This should make things much easier for parents/carers, using just the one app moving forward.

Please can we ask that you view the information held on MyChildatSchool to ensure that we have the most up to date information, if it is not up to date please amend and submit a request for change. This includes details such as:

- Change of address
- Change of contact mobile/home phone numbers
- Change of email addresses

### **Parental Consent via MyChildatSchool**

#### **IMPORTANT:**

**THE SECTION FOR PARENTAL CONSENT HAS NOW BEEN ACTIVATED AND WE DO REQUIRE THIS TO BE COMPLETED by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November.**

*This will be the definitive list used in school and will supersede any previous lists.*

### **Parents/Carers and School Partnership**

It was lovely to meet with our Parent Working Group and receive feedback from those who could not attend. As a school, we value the collaboration between parents/carers and school and know that working together is what makes our children's lives successful. As a result of our first working group, the Communication Policy has been finalised and a summary forwarded to you via email. I know that a Policy will not eradicate all issues but it is great to know that we are working together to improve the systems used.

Over the coming year, we will be holding several other Working Groups Forums to gain your support and feedback on school policy and initiatives that will support our pupils in their learning and in their play. If you would still like to be part of this, please contact the school and your contact details will be passed on to Mr Donald who is currently leading this.

We will also be holding several workshops over the coming months to share what children are learning in school and how you can support them with this at home.

Now that the restrictions of Covid are behind us, we also look forward to being able to celebrate achievements in school and share key events with you, bringing our school community closer together. The Class Saint Assemblies have already started and parents/carers will be invited to collectively worship with the children. Dates of these and Christmas Nativities/Concerts that will be coming up can be found on the list below.

Finally, I would like to thank you for all the support given to the school over the last half term – it has been successful in so many ways and a pleasure to see how much the children have learnt and experienced already, including watching their teachers in a BMX stunt. I hope you all have a wonderful, autumnal half term and we look forward to seeing the children return to school on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Kind regards

Mrs M McGettigan  
Headteacher

## October

- 31<sup>st</sup> – School re-opens to all
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Curriculum Newsletters out for parents
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Fr Wayne to visit Year 2 children

## November

- 1<sup>st</sup> - School in Action Tour at 9.30am
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Holy Day of Obligation: All Saints - Whole School Mass at 1.15pm
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Out of Hours Tour at 6pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Out of Hours Tour at 10am
- 7<sup>th</sup> – NHS Flu Immunisations for children
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 2 Sports Festival (15 children) - AM
- 8<sup>th</sup> – School photoshoot
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Family Prayer Meeting at 2.50pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 2JB Class Saint assembly for parents at 9am
- 10<sup>th</sup> - School in Action Tour at 9.30am
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Sister Cooley video call to children
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Out of Hours Tour at 6pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> – EYFS Nature Walk
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day themed learning, including 11am whole school silence
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Parents’ Evening slots and Christmas Production bookings live on ‘My Child at School’ app
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 attend Parish Mass at St Philip and St James Church
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Olympic Athlete visit to school
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Family Prayer Meeting at 2.50pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – 3WG Class Saint assembly for parents at 9am
- 25<sup>th</sup> – End of Term Reports out to parents
- 27<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday of Advent - Y6 families invited to Parish Mass at St Philip and St James Church
- 28<sup>th</sup> – EYFS Vision Screening
- 28<sup>th</sup> – 4W Barn Nativity trip at 11am
- 28<sup>th</sup> – 4D Barn Nativity trip at 1pm
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Parents’ Evening session 1 from 3.30pm – 6pm

## December

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Y1 Owls trip
- 1<sup>st</sup> - Parents’ Evening session 2 from 3.30pm – 6pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fr Wayne visit for Reconciliation Service PM
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday of Advent - Y5 families invited to Parish Mass at St Philip and St James Church
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Years 3 and 5 ‘Sparkle and Shine Concert’ dress rehearsal
- 6<sup>th</sup> – Years 3 and 5 ‘Sparkle and Shine Concert’ for parents at 2pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 2 ‘Christmas Play’ dress rehearsal
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Rocksteady Christmas Concert
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Year 3 ‘Stone Age Experience’
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Years 4 and 6 ‘Advent Service’ dress rehearsal
- 9<sup>th</sup> – EYFS ‘Nativity’ dress rehearsal
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Third Sunday of Advent - Y4 families invited to Parish Mass at St Philip and St James Church
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Years 4 and 6 ‘Advent Service’ for parents at St Philip and St James Church at 6pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> – EYFS ‘Nativity’ for parents at 9.45am
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Years 1 and 2 ‘Christmas Play’ for parents at 9.30am and 2pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas dinners
- 16<sup>th</sup> – School closes for Christmas holiday

## January

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Training Day for staff
- 4<sup>th</sup> – School opens for Spring term