



# Newsletter

## Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022

Dear Families,

We can't wait to welcome the children back into school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September. The gates will open at 8.40am and close again at 8.45am when lessons begin.

Classroom staff are very busy in the mornings greeting the children and getting ready to start lessons promptly at 8.45am. We do understand that for the first couple of weeks many Reception Acorns children will want a grown-up to walk with them to their classroom door, but we strongly encourage the children to come into school independently as soon as possible.

If you need to get a message to your child's class teacher, please use Class Dojo, speak to me or another member of staff on the gate or pop into the front office for a chat with a member of staff there.

Gates open at the end of the school day just before 3.15pm and parents should come onto the playgrounds to collect their children. Children in Year 5 and 6 can walk home unaccompanied but only if you have given permission via Arbor for them to do so.

### Class Organisation September 2022

Class Name	Teachers	Teaching Assistants	Higher Level Teaching Assistant (interventions and learning support)
Orchard	Miss Katie Berry Ms. Caroline Sutherland	Mrs Louise Amesbury Mrs Carolyn Waude Mrs Chris Ledwich Miss Dawn Stevenson Miss Crystal Peterson	
Reception Acorns	Miss Rachael Vincent	Miss Toni Bruce Miss Josie Kennedy	Mrs Katy Clubb
Year 1 Birch	Miss Charlotte Hathaway	Miss Sian Warburton	Mrs Michelle Roscoe
Year 2 Willow	Mrs Lyn Malik	Mrs Emma Kidd	
Year 3 Holly	Miss Hannah Barber	Mrs Tracey Delaney	Mrs Cath Priestley
Year 4 Chestnut	Miss Clare Dangerfield	Mrs Steph Clarke	
Year 5 Elm	Miss Ashleigh Martin and Miss Lydia Regan	Mrs Jemma Dixon Mrs Kerry Parkin	
Year 6 Oak	Mr James Sidebottom	Mrs Kirsty Taylor	Mrs Karen Barton
Year 6 Ash	Miss Emma Brown	Miss Joanne Crossland Mrs Emily Stanton	

## Attendance

The school's overall attendance last year was 92% which is much lower than we would aim for. Improving attendance is going to be one of our priorities this year and we will be working with all our families to find ways to support you achieving the best possible attendance for all our children.

Next week each child from Year 1 upwards will bring home an attendance letter which will include details of their overall attendance last year. If their attendance was below 90%, I will be contacting you to come into school for a chat with me to see if there is anything we can do to ensure they have higher attendance this academic year.

Please don't worry or be offended if you are contacted to come into school to see me. I do understand that there are different individual circumstances which affect children's attendance and any meeting with me will be a friendly and informal conversation to see if there is any support we can offer you.

## School Dinners, Packed Lunches and Snacks

School dinners are free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. For children in Year 3 and above who are not entitled to free school meals, lunches cost £2.30 each, £11.50 per week.

Children can move between sandwiches and school dinners with a week's notice, but we cannot allow children to "mix and match" within each week.

Our school dinners are prepared to a very high nutritional standard. If your child brings a packed lunch instead, please follow our healthy eating guidelines below:

What?	How Much
Sandwiches with a protein rich filling (i.e. tuna, cheese, cold meat or plant-based equivalent, egg), pasta or rice salad, filled wraps, pitta bread, crackers and cheese spread etc.	No limit
Fresh and dried fruit and vegetables: carrot sticks, apples, grapes ( <b>sliced length ways for young children please to reduce the risk of choking</b> ), tomatoes, oranges, plums, cucumber, sweetcorn, raisins, pears, strawberries, raspberries.....	No limit
Dairy food – a plain fruit yoghurt or cheese – or plant based equivalent	One portion
Drinks – plain water, milk or fruit juice	No limit
One snack : i.e. a bag of crisps, a biscuit or cereal bar, a bun or scone, "corner" yoghurt, mousses, jellies etc.	One item only. <b>(We will encourage your child to eat their sandwiches and fruit and veg before they eat their snack.)</b>
<b>Fizzy drinks, chocolate bars and sweets should not be included in packed lunches</b>	

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are given a free portion of fresh fruit or vegetables (apples, oranges, pears, carrots etc) each morning break funded by the government. Children in Year 3 upwards can buy a piece of fruit for 20p each day from our snack shop or bring some fresh fruit or vegetables from home as a snack at break time. Please don't send in crisps or biscuits for breaktime snacks.

## Family Dinner Days are back!

It seems a very long time since we were able to host family dinner days and we are very excited to welcome you back into school to eat with your children. Please book and pay for your meals by 9.15am on the Friday morning of the meal at the very latest. Adult meals cost £2.60 each and children's meals are £2.30. Alternatively, you are welcome to bring your own packed lunch to eat alongside the children.

Year 6 Ash and Oak Classes	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	12.30pm
Year 5 Elm Class	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	12.30pm
Year 4 Chestnut Class	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	12.30pm
Year 3 Holly Class	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	12.30pm
Year 2 Willow Class	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	12.15pm
Year 1 Birch Class	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	12.15pm
Reception Acorns Class	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00 noon
Orchard Class	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00 noon

## Keeping children safe in school – parents at the school fence.

Although we understand how tempting it is for parents and friends to stop to chat to children through the school fence, we do ask that you don't do this. Staff on duty may not recognise the adults who are trying to interact with the children and so this can be a safeguarding concern.

If you do walk past school when the children are playing outside, please do not call any of the children over or talk to any of them while they are in school.

Thank you.

## School Uniform and Equipment

I'm going to keep reminding everyone about uniform as I really do want every child to be dressed correctly for school every day, so here is the message yet again!

Tops with the school logo are available from Bulldog Fashion in Glossop but supermarket uniform is just as acceptable if children are dressed in the correct school colours as below. We also sell good quality second hand uniform for just £1.00 per item and are always very grateful for any donations of uniform to school.

<b>Royal blue</b> sweatshirt, cardigan, jumper or fleece with or without the school logo
<b>Sky blue</b> long or short sleeved polo shirt
<b>Dark Grey</b> long trousers, knee length skirt, knee length shorts, knee length pinafore
<b>Sky blue and white</b> checked knee length dress.
Sensible, flat, waterproof, plain black shoes including plain black unbranded trainers in a smooth, waterproof material which fasten firmly to the feet.
White, grey or black socks / grey or black tights

**Please clearly name every item of clothing including outdoor coats and even shoes so we can quickly reunite any lost items with their owners.**

Last year we added plain black smart trainers to our uniform list but unfortunately, many children started to wear casual sports-style trainers in a range of colours which are not acceptable for school other than in PE lessons. Please note that plain black trainers refer to school style, smart trainers – not sports style or trainers with light coloured soles. See below for a selection of images of acceptable school shoes and trainers:





Book bags in house colours are also available from Bulldog Fashion. We do ask that where possible children don't bring large, rucksack style bags into school as the cloakrooms are quite small and crowded and these bags inevitably fall off the coat pegs. Instead, if possible, we would like children to bring separate drawstring PE bags, flat book bags and lunchboxes as these can all be stored much more easily. Your child will also need a water bottle in school each day which can be purchased from the school office. All children are given their first water bottle free when they join the school. Please don't send in the tall, metal water bottles with large open necks – they topple over easily and we have had incidents of spillages spoiling children's work. Instead, school water bottles with sports style caps are available from the school office for only one pound each. We keep bottles in school for the week (they are rinsed out and aired at the end of each day) and send them home each Friday so you can give them a thorough clean.

## PE Lessons

We give sport and PE lessons a high profile in school and hope to see every child kitted out correctly for these lessons. Our PE uniform should be worn by every child from Year 1 upwards (and by children in our new Reception Acorns Class after the Easter holidays). Again, please clearly name every item of clothing. PE uniform is plain black, other than PE t-shirts in house colours and items should be chosen from the list below:

<b>Plain black</b> jogging or tracksuit bottoms OR <b>plain black</b> sports quality leggings OR <b>plain black</b> knee length shorts with or without <b>plain black</b> skins underneath
Full length T-shirt in your child's <b>house colour of red, blue, yellow or green</b> . (Available with the school logo from Bulldog Fashion in Glossop but a plain coloured t-shirt is also fine). Cropped tops are not allowed.
Long sleeved <b>plain black t-shirt or skins</b> layer to wear under the coloured t-shirt in cold weather
A warm <b>plain black sports top</b> with or without the Gamesley School logo. <b>Every child from Year 1 upwards is entitled to claim a free black PE hoodie from Bulldog Fashion now, please let us know if you have not received your individual letter about this. Children in Reception Acorns Class will be able to claim their hoodie in Spring 2023.</b>
A draw string PE bag (available to buy in school house colours from Bulldog fashion.)
Training shoes. If children wear plain black trainers for school they can also use these for PE lessons.

PE lessons will start the first week we are back in school. Please ensure your child brings their full kit to school on the days below:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>
Year 2 Willow Year 3 Holly	Year 1 Birch	Year 5 Oak Year 6 Ash	Year 4 Chestnut Year 5 Elm

Kindest regards,

*Deborah Meredith*

<b>Dates for your Diary</b>	
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 22</b>	<b>School opens for Autumn Term 1</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sep 22	Applications for Secondary School places open
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Sep 22	Year 6 Family Dinner day
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Sep 22	School photographer – individual photographs.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 22	Year 5 Family Dinner Day
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> Sep 22	Year 5 children Martial Arts workshop in school
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 22	Year 3 children visit to Sheffield Manor Lodge
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 22	Year 4 Family Dinner Day
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 22	Year 4 children visit to Tatton Park
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 22	Year 3 Family Dinner Day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October 22	Year 6 children visit to Liverpool Museum of Slavery
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October 22	Year 2 Family Dinner Day
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 22	Reception and Orchard children Forest School trip
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 22</b>	<b>School closes for Autumn half term holiday</b>
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 22</b>	<b>School Opens for Autumn Term 2</b>
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 22	Closing date for applications for Secondary Schools
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Whole school visit from Paul Sturgess – Tallest Harlem Globetrotter's player
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 22	Year 2 children visit to Manchester Art Gallery
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 22	Year 1 Family Dinner Day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 22	Reception Class Family Dinner Day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 22	Children in Need
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 22	Orchard Class Family Dinner Day
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 22	Whole school trip to Buxton Opera House: "Sleeping Beauty".
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 22	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day.
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 22</b>	<b>School closes for Christmas holiday</b>
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 23</b>	<b>School Opens for Spring Term 1</b>
January (tbc)	Year 5 "Young Voices" concert
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January 23	Year 6 visit to Ashton Central Mosque
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 23	Year 2 Flower arranging workshop in school

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 23	Year 3 visit to Poole's Cavern in Buxton
W/B Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Year 4 field trip to Manor Park (river study)
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 23</b>	<b>School closes for Spring half term holiday</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 23</b>	<b>School Opens for Spring Term 2</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 23	Year 5 First Aid Training in school
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 23	Year 2 trip to St. Anne's
<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 23</b>	<b>School closes for Easter holiday</b>
<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 23</b>	<b>School Opens for Summer Term 1</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 23	Year 3 visit to Heaton Park Synagogue
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 23</b>	<b>School closed – Bank Holiday</b>
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 23	Year 5 Ancient Greece workshop in school
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 23	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 23	Year 4 Ancient Egypt workshop in school
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 23</b>	<b>School closes for Summer Half Term holiday</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 23</b>	<b>School Opens for Summer Term 2</b>
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 23	Year 6 residential trip to Kingswood Centre in Penistone.
June (tbc)	Year 4 "Come and Play with the Halle" concert in Manchester
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 trip to "Crocky Trail"
July (tbc)	Year 5 trip to Alton Towers
July (tbc)	Year 1 Canal Boat Trip
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 23</b>	<b>School Closes for Summer Holiday</b>