



# Tividale Community Primary School

## Newsletter September 2017

### Welcome Back...

A warm welcome to the new school year. A special welcome to the parents, new children and new staff that have joined us at Tividale this month. It is great to announce that again Tividale Community Primary School is completely full in all year groups, with a waiting list at the council of children whose parents want them to come to here. It is excellent to see that parents continue to recognise our high standards and are actively choosing to bring their children to our school.

Please note, school registration is at 8.55am, so do ensure your children are at school each day by that time to avoid being marked as late on the register.

We are looking forward to us all working together and having another successful year at Tividale.

### Parking

Please park considerately and safely to help protect our children...

Whilst I recognise the difficulties and frustrations of parking at the end of the school day, please make every effort to consider the safety of our pupils.

Please also be reminded that the car park is for staff and official visitors only. Parents are not allowed to drive onto the premises at the start and end of the school day, except in an emergency. I would like to thank parents in advance for your support on this matter.

To help parents in this matter, the Gurdwara opposite, has kindly given us permission to invite parents to use their car park free of charge for school runs. The car park is on Britannia Street, the road directly opposite the school. We would encourage parents to take them up on this generous offer.

### School Library

Please be reminded that the School Library is now open from 3.30 - 3.45pm every afternoon for children that wish to change their school library books before their next class library session.



### End of Day Collection

We understand that on occasion, parents need to phone into school to notify us of a change to who may be collecting your child. If this is the case, please can you do this as soon as possible? I'm sure you can appreciate that the end of the school day is very busy time for the office staff. Thank you.

At this time of year, we tend to see a build-up of congestion at the end of school time around the Year 3 and 4 door. In order to try to solve this, parents will have noticed that we have put a new system into place. Each day, a member of staff will ensure the yellow gates are closed before 3:30pm and we would ask parents to wait behind them. The KS2 children are then taken in class groups out to the top playground to their lining up area. Once all children are lined up, a member of staff will open the gates, and parents are able to go into the playground to collect their children. Please can I ask, that parents do not open the gates themselves, as, if the children are not all out and ready, it will cause more chaos and confusion to this system, rather than it being a solution. Thank you in advance for your patience and for waiting until a member of staff opens the gates.

### After-School Clubs

We are in the process of organising a rota for this year's after-school clubs. These will be starting after half term, but you will be soon be receiving letters informing you of which clubs are available to which year groups, and application forms should you wish to apply for a place for your child.

### Leave of Absence During Term Time

May I take this opportunity to remind parents that requests for holidays during term time will not be authorised, and may result in a fine if taken. For any other planned absences, such as hospital appointments, could I please ask you to notify the office in advance and complete a 'Leave of Absence form. Please note, doctors and dentist appointments should be made outside of school time as far as is possible. Further details will be sent out to you soon in a separate letter.

## Wet Mornings

On wet mornings children are allowed into school at 8.45am when staff will be available to take responsibility for them. When mornings are wet, please try to ensure that children do not arrive in school before 8.45am. Key Stage 1 and Reception children should enter school through the door in the Key Stage 1 playground where a teacher will be on duty and Key Stage 2 children through the Year 3/4 door.

## Healthy Lunch Boxes and snacks – Please no sweets, chocolate or fizzy drinks!

It is very pleasing to see the majority of children having wholemeal bread, fruit, salad and fruit juice or water in their lunch boxes. To further develop our standing as a "healthy school" and to continue to encourage children to have a healthy diet and lifestyle, please remember sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed in school at any time during the school day. These should be seen as treats at the end of the school day or for special occasions.

At morning break time, children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 are given a free healthy snack. Key Stage 2 children may bring in their own healthy snack such as a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Children, up to the age of 5, are also given a drink of milk. Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to buy from school, or bring in their own, carton of fresh orange juice. Children may also bring a named water bottle into class to drink during the day. Please note, children are not able to access their lunch boxes until lunch time, so any snack or water bottles for use at break times must be sent in separately. For further details, please contact a member of our office staff who will help you.

## Uniforms

Many thanks to all parents who ensure daily that their child attends school dressed appropriately in uniform. It is very important in creating a sense of belonging and community in our school, and children are very proud of looking smart. It was noted towards the end of last term, that a small number of children started to come to school in 'variations' of uniform. Problems may arise between children when they come to school dressing distinctly different from their friends; such as in the wrong coloured jumper or cardigan, brightly coloured trainers/shoes or having had a distinctive hairstyle! This causes children to stand out as different and in some cases, can contribute to lowered self-esteem. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school by providing the correct Tividale uniform for your child.

## Mobile Phones in school

Some of our older children who walk home without an adult are allowed to bring mobile phones into school, for safety reasons in getting to and home from school only. Please be aware that the children who do this **MUST** hand in their phones to the school office each morning, so that they can be put into the safe for the day. We cannot take any responsibility for mobile phones that are lost or damaged as a result of not being handed in. Please can you talk to your children about this to ensure they understand the expectations, and that they quickly get into the routine of handing in phones for safe keeping.

## Important Days/Dates

September	29 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival
October	7 <sup>th</sup>	Y3 Eid Assembly / Police Surgery 8:45am
	12 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening
	20 <sup>th</sup>	School closes for half term
	30 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens
30 <sup>th</sup> Oct - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov		Y5&6 Residential Trip to Edmond Hall
November	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Halloween Disco
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Y2 Diwali Assembly
	17 <sup>th</sup>	Non- Uniform Day for Children in Need



Signed:

*E Burnell*

(Headteacher) 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017