



# Autumn Term Newsletter



Number 305 – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Dear Parents

A warm welcome to the first newsletter of the school year. We hope both you and your children have had a wonderful summer and are all set for the new school year. I would like to give a particular warm welcome to all parents of children who joined us in September. I hope that this is the start of a positive relationship together.

You will be delighted to hear that Mrs Marsham gave birth to a baby girl called Sophie. Mother and baby are doing well.

During the summer holidays, we were fortunate enough to have the Nursery redecorated and new security fencing and gates have been installed.

It's been a very busy start with lots going on but the children have made an excellent start and have settled down well to working hard and behaving well. There have been a number of letters going home and all of these can be found on the school website. Please check our website regularly for any letters or important information that has been sent to you. The website address is [www.clitherow.brent.sch.uk](http://www.clitherow.brent.sch.uk). Should you need any help with this, please do not hesitate to ask.

I apologise for inundating you with paperwork but as you can imagine there are always changes and reminders needed at the start of the school year! Please do ensure you complete any information we have requested such as the collection arrangements for your child and medical details as this is vital for safeguarding purposes. If your child needs an asthma pump or an epipen, please bring this in labelled with your child's name.

## **Uniform**

Please ensure all children have the correct uniform which is clearly labelled with the child's full name with the special clothes stickers, labels or laundry pen. Please do not use initials only or a normal pen as this is not sufficient. Please ensure your child also has their own school PE kit (not shared with siblings) in school at times. I must emphasise that PE is a compulsory part of the curriculum and a child may only be excused with a written note for medical reasons. We apologise for delays in uniform deliveries but due to unforeseeable circumstances, our supplier was unable to process our order for September. This order is now being processed as urgent but there is still a delay of 20 days. We thank you for your patience and apologise for the inconvenience caused.

## **Parking**

The beginning and end of the school day are very busy times and the roads around St Margaret Clitherow School become very congested. Please help us to keep children safe by walking to school if you are able to or parking a safe distance away in order to reduce the congestion. If you need to drive to school, please be considerate of our neighbours and do not obstruct driveways. Please be reminded that there is no stopping on the zig-zag lines before or after school. This is illegal and unsafe. Thank you.

## **Scooters and bicycles on the school site**

Please be reminded that children should not be scooting or cycling anywhere on the school site. This rule is in place to ensure the safety of our children in school and their younger siblings who often visit at the start and end of the day. I would be very grateful for your support in this matter.

## **Attendance**

Schools target for attendance is 96% and although many children achieve this we have a significant proportion of children who are regularly unwell and are off school at least one day or more every week. Many of these children are off due to repeated sickness.

**Our attendance figure for last year was 96.1% which was just above the recommended figure.** There is a lot of educational research that shows a clear link between educational outcomes and attendance to school. It is vital that the students' attendance is high and our target for students is 96% or above. Students are considered to be 'Persistently Absent' if the attendance drops below 90%. Parents are reminded that all term time absences (except for sickness) must be requested in writing to me in advance. Please do not request term time absence for holidays as this will not be authorised.

If your child is unwell it is your responsibility to make a 'judgment call' and decide whether they are well enough to attend school. If you are concerned about your child's health but feel they are well enough to attend school then make the school aware of your concerns at the beginning of the day and we will keep an eye on them. If your child is unwell at school we will contact you to come and collect them. If you decide your child is not well enough to attend school you should call the School before 9am.

## **Whole School Mass**

There will be a whole School Mass on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at the English Martyrs' Church at 9.30. All parents are welcome to attend.

I look forward to working with you during the coming academic year to ensure that your child continues to succeed. Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend and I hope the sunshine holds out for a bit longer for us all!

Mrs Ewa McSperrin  
Headteacher

### **FORTHCOMING DATES**

12 Sept	Meet the teacher Yrs 3 5 & 6
15 Sept	Meet the teacher Yrs 1 2 & 4
23 Sept	Coffee morning at English Martyrs
17 Oct	Y6 Gordon Brown Week trip
24 Oct	Half Term
7 Nov	Open evening
14 Nov	Open Evening
19 Dec	Christmas Fayre
21 Dec	School finishes for Christmas hols

### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

After school clubs start week commencing 12 September. Please look out for the letters and do read them. Dance club will NOT start till 22 September letters will go out to sign up.

Please make sure you send back the consent slip with payment.

School website address is as follows:-

[www.clitherow.brent.sch.uk](http://www.clitherow.brent.sch.uk)