



Autumn Term Newsletter

Number 425 – 15th September 2023



Dear Parents/Carers

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. 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.

Meet the teacher for R to Y6

The Meet the Teacher sessions have been taking place this week and there are a few more taking place next week. To ensure that you are fully aware of what is expected of each year group, it is very important to come along to these meetings. If you missed the meeting, the information will be put on the website.

The times and dates for the remaining meetings are as follows:

Y4: Monday 18th September @ 2.30 pm

Y5: Tuesday 19th September @ 2.30 pm

Reception: Monday 25th September @ 2.30 pm

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. Please ensure that you do not take your child out of school during term time. We have had strict instructions from the EWO not to authorise leave requests unless there are special circumstances. (Please see our attendance policy on the website) Parents who choose to take their child out of school during term time will each be referred to Brent Education Welfare and may be issued with a £120 Education Penalty Notice Fine per child (reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of issue date) Please remember that if your child is absent from school, and we have not already been informed in advance, parents must telephone the school by 9.00am on every day of absence. This is a very important safeguarding measure to ensure we know the whereabouts of every child. If a child's whereabouts are unknown or unclear, the school will contact Brent's Children Missing in Education team so they can carry out an investigation.

Punctuality/ Lateness

Already we have noticed a significant number of children who persistently arrive late for school. This is not just disruptive for the class but also impacts on your child's learning. We will be closely monitoring late arrivals and late collections. You will need to sign the late book if you arrive late dropping off or collecting your child. Punctuality is also vital to children's learning and well-being. So please ensure your child arrives on time and is collected on time every day.

A child arriving after 8.50am should be accompanied by a parent or suitable adult who must report to the school office with the child. **DO NOT** leave your child at the school gate after 8.50am. This may be viewed as child abandonment and may result in a referral to Social Care.

We also have a number of children who are picked up late after school. This causes great inconvenience to school staff who often have meetings to attend after school. If a parent is going to be late collecting their child they should ring the school office or email admin@clitherow.brent.sch.uk Any parent who regularly collects their child late will be invited to meet with the Headteacher. In very serious cases of children being left late at school the child may be deemed to be abandoned with the local police station being informed, as well as a referral made to Social Care. It is essential that you make an improved effort to pick your child up on time.

These times are:

2:45- Nursery

2:50- Reception

3:00- Year 1, 2 and 3

3:15 –Year 4, 5 and 6

If you have children in different year groups, you can wait on school grounds until the appropriate pick-up time.

Should you have any queries please contact us on: admin@clitherow.brent.sch.uk
iheath@clitherow.brent.sch.uk or bnolan@clitherow.brent.sch.uk



News Items



School Information

Please make sure you download the school jotter app so you can be kept up to date with school information. Other information regarding the curriculum is also available on the school's website. The website address is www.clitherow.brent.sch.uk

Should you need any help with this, please do not hesitate to ask.

Personal Information updates

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, an epipen or other medication, please bring this in labelled with your child's name. Similarly, if your child has any dietary requirements, you must let us know so that we can inform the kitchen staff. If there have been changes in your personal information, please make sure that you pass the updates to the office so we can update our records.

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. Shoes should be black— School Coats must be plain **black** or **blue**. Please ensure your child also has their correct school PE kit. 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. Long hair for girls should be tied back. Haircuts should be no shorter than a grade 3 with no zig-zags, patterns etc.

No jewellery is allowed in school, other than small stud earrings and a watch. Smart watches are not allowed. Any child found wearing hooped earrings/necklaces/bracelets or other items of jewellery will be asked to remove them and place the items in a sealed envelope. The Parent/Carer will be contacted and requested to collect the jewellery from the school office. **This is a Health and Safety regulation.**

Uniform orders delays

We are aware that there has been a delay in the uniform orders placed by the parents. We understand that these are circumstances beyond parent control so if your order has not arrived, please let the school office know. We may be able to lend you second hand uniform until your order arrives. We have contacted M&S and they have assured us that this matter will be rectified very soon.

Breakfast club

This club will run from 7.30am and the cost is £3.00 per session. All payments must be made via *ParentPay* in advance.

Magic Breakfast

This provision will run daily **from 8.15am in the school hall**. Any child in the school from Reception to Year 6 can access this service for free.

Kidzone

The hours for Kidzone are from **3.00pm – 5.30pm**. All payments must be made in advance through **ParentPay**. The cost of this provision is **£6 per hour**.

Governors' Fund

Governors' Fund—our annual voluntary payment of £90 for this year 2023-2024 is now available to be paid via parent pay. This can be paid annually or in 3 instalments. Thank you for your support.

Update on the ARP building (Additional Resource Provision)- School House Rebuild

We have been informed by the local authority the tenders have now been returned. The LA is waiting for the cost analysis from their consultants but the winning contractor did submit a programme with their tender submission and the dates they have given are for them to start on site on **6th November 2023** and with completion on the **19th April 2024**.

What will happen now is that the LA will need to submit a report to get approval to appoint the contractor which is a standard process. Once they have approval, they can then get the contract sent to them to sign and then once that is received, we can then start arranging meetings with them. First, there will be a pre-commencement meeting with the contractor, Brent and project consultants and then there will be **a pre-start meeting with the school about 3-4 weeks before the contractors are due to start on site. We will keep you updated.**

It is a very exciting opportunity and we believe that it will be a great addition to our school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best wishes and God Bless
Mrs Heath
Headteacher



News Items



Teachers for academic year
2023/2024

N Mrs E Coombes

R Miss B Nolan

1 Mrs A Davies

2 Miss C Higgins

3 Miss C Pugh

4 Mrs K Baalla

5 Mrs S Terry/Mrs P Forde

6 Mr A Pridding

Beginning of the School Year Prayer

God of wisdom and might,
we praise you for the wonder of our being,
for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin
a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give the strength and grace as their bodies
grow;

wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FORTHCOMING DATES

18 th Sept	Meet the Teacher Year 4
25 th Sept	Meet the Teacher Reception
29 th Sept	Year 6 English Martyrs Mass followed by McMillan Coffee Morning. (TBC)
23 rd October	Half Term
	School closed-INSET DAY
6 th Nov	Yar 6 trip to Gordon Brown Centre
13 th Nov	Open Evening
20 th Nov	Open Evening
21st Dec	Last day of Autumn Term
Please check out the calendar on the jotter for dates and times of events.	

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns for the safety and well-being of any child, please make an appointment to see Mrs Heath who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Miss Nolan who is the Deputy DSL.

In an emergency, please call the police without delay. We can also help parents through Brent's Early Help Assessment process.

If you are having difficulties with housing, finances or health, please speak with Mrs Heath who can signpost you to appropriate support and services.

[Click here](#) for information from the NSPCC on [Positive Parenting](#)

[Click here](#) for [Brent Citizens Advice](#)

Useful Contacts:

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

Brent Social Services: 020 8937 4300