



SEPTEMBER- Monthly Newsletter

A Note from the Headteachers



We would like to give a big welcome back to all our children and hope that you have all had an enjoyable and restful summer break. It has been so wonderful to see the children's smiling faces as they arrive back at school this week ready for the start of a new school year.

We will be welcoming all of our new Reception children in small steps over the next few weeks and they will be full time by the 22nd September. I am sure you will all make them feel really welcome.

We really look forward to a fantastic year ahead, with many exciting events and trips planned as always. Please do keep a look out for important dates which will be sent out in a separate email and please do feel free to contact the school with any questions. We are always happy to help!

Mrs Collens & Mrs Fletcher



Staffing Update:



This year there have been a few changes over the summer.

We would like to say a huge CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Hawksley who got married over the summer holidays and has now become 'Mrs Lewis'.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mr Sampson who will be leaving us at the end of week 1 and Mrs Giles who left us at the end of the school year. We would like to thank them both and wish them all the best for the future. This has obviously meant some last minute changes to our staffing structure. We are lucky enough to be able to cover this with staff the children already know and Mrs Holley and Mrs Simmonds will be doing additional hours for extra support in classes. We have also recruited a temporary member of staff for term 1 Mrs Scott, who will be working in year 4 a few days a week.

P.E. Kits



Just a reminder of P.E. days this year:

Reception- Friday

Year 1 - Wednesday

Year 2 - Tuesday and Thursday

Year 3 - Monday and Thursday

Year 4 - Monday and Friday

Year 5 - Tuesday and Thursday

Year 6 - Wednesday and Friday

Please remember to send your child to school in their P.E. kit on P.E. days. This saves lost time getting changed and prevents loss of uniform and P.E. kit. Please ensure ALL uniform is labelled as we had so much left at the end of the year we had to throw away.

Please ensure your child has the correct PE uniform:

White t-shirt

Red Shorts

Black Trainers or plimsolls

Navy blue leggings or tracksuit bottoms

Navy blue hoodie or school logo sweatshirt

NO logos/Brand names please

No earrings on these days please

Wearing the correct PE kit helps you participate comfortably and safely in all the fun activities we have planned. Thank you!



Victoria Road PE Kit

Please come to school dressed in your PE kit on your PE days.
This is your school uniform on this day so still needs to be smart.



Plain white round neck T Shirt

This can be with or without our school logo

Plain navy blue leggings or tracksuit bottoms - No branding

Plain navy blue hoodie or school logo sweatshirt - No Branding

Red PE shorts only - No black cycling shorts or Football shorts

Plain black trainers or plimsolls - No bright colours or Branding

Nut Free School



Please can we remind you that we are a **NUT FREE School**. We have children in school with severe nut allergies and need to ensure their safety and therefore we would kindly ask that you think carefully about what you put in your child's lunch or snack pot.

Please also be aware that nuts are often hidden in the strangest places -

Some frequently used nut products:

- No Nutella/Chocolate spread
- Pesto pasta
- Packs of nuts
- Cereal or chocolate bars containing nuts
- Peanut Butter
- Sesame seeds on rolls
- Homemade cakes and food with nuts

There will be a letter sent out soon with more information but please help us keep our children safe by thinking about ingredients before sending food into school.

Thank you

Letter from the Prime minister



To mark this week's childcare expansion milestone, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has written to parents reaffirming his Plan for Change promise to give children the best possible start with 75% of five-year-olds reaching a good level of development by 2028. We have been asked by the Dfe (Department for Education) to share the attached letter and link from the Prime Minister about his thoughts and future plans for education and child care.

Please see the links below

[Letter from the Prime Minister](#)

To find out more about the support available to you and your family, including free breakfast clubs, eligibility for childcare offers, Best Start Family Hubs in your area and support with your child's early health and learning, visit our new site that brings this all together in one place: www.BestStartinLife.gov.uk.

Family Picnic in the Park



Once again we invite you to our annual '**Family Picnic in the Park**'. This is a chance to catch up with friends after the holidays and give the children and parents a chance to socialise and meet new friends if you have just joined us.

This informal event takes place out of school in the play equipment in Victoria Park. On Wednesday 17th September. We will release the children as usual and then all teachers will meet you over in the park at 3:30 until 4:30pm. Bring a picnic and play with your friends. The children will need a responsible adult with them to ensure their safety as the teachers and adults are there to catch up with families and will not be supervising the children on the play equipment.

We love this event as it is a chance to catch up with families after the long break and to hear what you have been up to and how your children are feeling about the year ahead. We hope you can make it and look forward to seeing you there.

Our School FLO!

For those of you who are new to Victoria Road, we welcome you to our lovely school! Mrs Vincent is our school FLO (Family Liaison Officer) and is always happy to help. Please say hello to Mrs Vincent at the school gate or e-mail flo@victoria-road.kent.sch.uk



Attendance

Just a reminder that there have been big changes with attendance this year as the government have updated their policy in a bid to reduce term time holidays and casual attendance. There are now harsher penalties for any absence of 10 sessions (5 days) over a 10 week period. All holidays, over 5 days in term time will go to a penalty notice, and if this happens 3 times in a 3 year period, this will go straight to court with the potential of a criminal record and a note on any DBS check. Please note, this is a government policy and schools have no choice but to unauthorise all holidays in term time and send all holidays over 5 days to the council for a penalty notice.

Dates for your Diary

Term 2 dates will be coming out in a separate email to follow, please keep your eye out.