

30 August 2024

Dear families,

I hope you have had a great summer holiday and like me, are excited for the new academic year. I am sure that after 6 weeks at home, children are looking forward to seeing their friends and immersing themselves in their learning. Please read on for key dates, reminders and new information for the first term.

Important Dates:

Date	Event
Monday 2 September	All children return to school
Monday 2 September	Den Building Y1 and Y2
Tuesday 3 September	Den Building Y3 and Y4
Wednesday 4 September	Den Building Y5 and Y6
W/B 16 September	Y5 Parent Workshops
Tuesday 17 September	Y6 Eden Camp
Thursday 19 September	Phonics Workshop- Reception 8.30am
Tuesday 24 September	Y5 Armley Mills Trip
Wednesday 26 September	Y3 Romans Workshop
W/B 30 September	Y6 Parent Workshops (exact details to follow)
W/B 7 October	Y4 Parent Workshops (exact details to follow)
W/B 14 October	Y3 Parent Workshops (exact details to follow)
Monday 14 October	Y6 Kingswood Residential
Friday 18 October	School closes for half term holiday
Monday 4 November	School reopens for Term 2

Trips & Visits

We know that learning beyond the classroom is a valuable way to enhance our curriculum. Part of our development plan is to increase the number of visits and experiences across the year for all. We already have booked in at least three trips per year group, with further opportunities to be added throughout the year. **To keep things simple and affordable for families, we are sticking with a one-off payment to cover all costs for the whole academic year. A charge of £20 will be added to all Bromcom accounts over the coming days and we would appreciate if this could be paid as soon as possible to help us cover booking costs for venues and coaches.** This cost has not increased from last year and is extremely good value for money when we consider the rising costs passed on to us from coach companies. Children in receipt of free school meals do not need to pay. If you think you may be eligible for this benefit, we advise you to apply here:

https://onlineforms.bradford.gov.uk/ufs/free_school_meals.eb?ebd=0&ebz=1_1724863710394

If your application is successful, you will be informed immediately, with school being informed within 5 working days. Please speak to Mrs Khan if you need any further help and advice related to benefits.

Topic Webs and Knowledge Organisers

These documents were sent home at the end of last year and will give you more specific information about what your child will be learning, what days of the week are important to their year group and other key messages relevant to the routines of the class. Please review this with your child and speak with class teachers if you have not received it. An electronic copy can be found on our website under the 'Curriculum' tab.

Milk Money & Lunch Payments

Milk for children in Y1 and Y2 is chargeable at £40 for the whole year. A separate letter will follow with more details. **Children in Y3-6 need to pay for school dinners at a cost of £2.30 per day.** Dinner registers are taken daily, and costs will be uploaded to your MCAS account automatically. We ask that payments are made weekly and will communicate to families when accounts are in negative balance. Where debts become significant, we will ask that packed lunches are provided until debts are cleared. Again, please complete the form on the link above if you think you may be eligible for support with meal costs.

The cost for lunches for 30 hours Nursery children is £1.90. This will also be added to MCAS accounts.

Water Bottles

Children should bring a clear plastic water bottle from home, filled with water and take it home each day. This will mean bottles can be cleaned at home daily and that learning time is not lost in the classroom. Please make sure they are named in case other children within the class have the same one!



Clubs

Clubs will begin on Monday 9 September. Forms will be sent next week and families will be notified about their choices by Friday 6 September. Clubs will have limited capacity but we will make sure that all children have the opportunity to attend across the year.

Medical Information

We know that children's health needs change over time and are committed to supporting children's needs in school. Please inform the office of any changes to dietary requirements, allergies or medication as soon as possible so that we can update records and put actions in place. A reminder that any short term/temporary medication requires parental consent and instructions. Our form must be completed and is available from the office in these circumstances.

Parent Workshops

We know that children thrive at school when there is a genuine partnership between home and school and when parents have a good idea of how and what their children are learning. Each year group will have three parent workshops across the year, offering a chance for parents and children to complete key activities together. These will be interactive sessions, led by teachers, and provide an insight to simple and effective activities that will help children make progress. We would hope that all children have a family member present at these sessions and the dates for this half term are listed above. Please attend and join your child for their workshop- it really is an enjoyable experience for children who have a family member present.

Leadership

Our senior leaders now have a responsibility to oversee the learning and development needs of a key stage. They will be more visible at the start and end of each day and should be your first point of contact should you have concerns that cannot be resolved by the class teacher. They will be looking after children as follows:

Nursery & Reception: Miss Hanney (ehanney@dixonsmb.com)

Year 1 and Year 2: Mrs Lynch (mlynch@dixonsmb.com)

Year 3 and Year 4: Miss Bashir (zbashir@dixonsmb.com)

Year 5 and Year 6: Miss Stephenson (astephenson@dixonsmb.com)

All our senior leaders will be teaching in class every week so will have close relationships with all children in their key stage. Mrs Lynch will continue in her role as Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and is the person you should contact if you have concerns about the welfare of any child. I too am available anytime should you wish to discuss any concerns or give feedback- I will be outside at the start and end of the day and can be contacted directly by email. (rgreenwood@dixonsmb.com)

All our important information can also be found on our school website, with the Family Handbook providing a useful summary. <https://www.dixonsmb.com/about/family-handbook>

We are all looking forward to seeing you on Monday and are filled with excitement for the year ahead. We will see you bright and early next week! (Breakfast club will be open from 8.00am for those families that need this service)

Kind Regards,

Mrs Rebecca Greenwood
Principal

