

Wyke Regis Primary Federation

Inspiring Hearts and Minds

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13/09/23

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the new school year. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school and I know the staff have enjoyed a return to routine. I am writing with just a few bits of news and information on parent consultations.

Firstly, a huge well done to Y3 who are doing an amazing job in their transition to junior school life. They are settling in well to a brand new class and a brand new building. Thank you, parents, for helping make the mornings smooth and the afternoons safe in terms of handover, which is different to the infants. Our new children in Foundation stage have also made a good start and we look forward to seeing them full time from next week. Thank you to parents for accommodating the staggered start into school this last two weeks.

Thank you to all parents for getting children back to school in uniform and sports kits. We know this is an expensive time of year and appreciate your support in making sure the children are smart and have that sense of belonging to our purple team. Children tell us that they love the PE uniform and that it makes them feel more 'relaxed' about learning. Both schools now run a uniform 'new to you' store so items can be donated and taken at any time through the year. If you need some support with uniform costs please speak to either myself or the office teams in confidence.

We take attendance at school seriously and have attached this year's statement as a reminder. This year all 7 maintained (Dorset) schools have issued a joint statement for consistency and clarity across Weymouth. Please take the time to read this through. Mrs Ellis or Mr Kirwin will be more than happy to be contacted if you have any concerns around attendance. For your information, both schools were just below the national average for primary schools last academic year.

Parents evenings will take place on Tuesday 26th and Thursday 28th September. As last year, we will offer a mix of face-to-face and on-line appointments. An e-mail booking link will be sent out early next week.

A new 'walking bus' is in the process of being established and run by school staff - more on this to follow soon. Watch out too for our brand new '7 for 7' and '11 for 11' launch coming soon!

Our home learning policy has been updated and once agreed by staff will be e-mailed to parents.

The FFA made an amazing return to action last year with the children enjoying various events. As ever they are always keen to receive new members and the first meeting is at 6pm on Wednesday 27th September. Please come along to the junior school hall where you will find a friendly welcome and a cuppa.

As last year, an annual Parent Code will be issued shortly outlining our commitment to you and yours to us. Thank you to those of you who fed back on this last year.

Teachers are in the process of signing up for offering a range of clubs across the federation and we hope to start autumn offers the week of 25th September. Details will be e-mailed next week and enrollment will be on-line. As always I am grateful for teachers giving up their time to offer clubs at no cost to parents.

Finally, a couple of reminders and pleas: -

- All school gates close at 8.40am. If children are later than this they need to enter through the office.
- Playground equipment is not to be used before or after the school day. We cannot be responsible for accidents that happen at those times. We know this is hard but please help us to keep these play areas clear.
- Office staff have requested that any messages re: pick-ups etc. are not delivered after 2.45pm as there is no guarantee that pupils will receive them. In an emergency situation then obviously, we will do our best and we do understand that occasionally you may be running late for pick-up.
- Teachers have requested that permission slips for all trips are returned promptly and not on the day of the trip. Final risk assessments are completed the day before. If paper copies are easier for you, please request from the office staff.
- Please do not use mobile phones when on the school site unless its for an emergency situation.

I think that is more than enough for now - thank you for reading this far!

Yours faithfully,

W. Roberts
Head of federation