



St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School  
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Friday 8 September 2023

Dear parents,

It has been brilliant to see the children return to school this week. They have genuinely settled brilliantly and there is a lovely, purposeful working atmosphere around school. I have a few short items to update you with at the start of the year.

RAAC and School Closures:

You will have seen that the issue of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in schools and hospital has been dominating the news. This has led to a number of school closures. Our building was surveyed by the Trust last year and no RAAC was found. We are therefore open as normal.

School Leadership:

Mr Brown will be continuing in his role as Executive Head Teacher of St Lawrence's and St Joseph's for at least the next academic year. Miss Murray will continue as Head of School and Mrs Warwick is hitting the ground running in her new role as Assistant Head Teacher.

Parental Meetings:

We have arranged parental meetings for each class at the start of the year. This will inform you about the year ahead, our school rules and what the children will be learning. All meetings will begin at 9.00am and will take place in the school hall. They will last for approximately 30 minutes.

- Year 6 – Wednesday 13 September
- Year 5 – Tuesday 19 September
- Year 4 – Wednesday 20 September
- Year 3 – Wednesday 27 September
- Year 2 – Wednesday 4 October
- Year 1 – Wednesday 11 October
- Reception – Tuesday 17 October

Clubs:

Breakfast Club is already open. A free breakfast is available to all children from Y1-Y6 from 8.00-8:30 in the morning, every morning. If your child arrives after 8:30, unfortunately they will be able to attend Breakfast Club that day. At the moment we cannot accommodate the children before that time but if that changes we will let you know. Breakfast club will open to Reception children after Christmas.

After school clubs begin next week. They are as follows:

Monday	Dance	Y1 and Y2
Tuesday	Games	Y3 and Y4
Wednesday	Karate	KS2
Thursday	Sport with Mr Stephenson	Y5 and Y6

The clubs will change in the Spring term.

Remember, places are limited so you must return the letter which was sent out earlier this week.



School Attendance:

School attendance is going to be a huge priority this year. Attendance levels nationally are well below pre-COVID levels. Our school attendance is below the national average. We also have too many children missing more than 10% of their education. This defines those children as 'persistently absent'. Our goal this year is to massively reduce as poor attendance is statistically so closely linked to children not doing as well as they can both in Primary School, Secondary School and then the wider world outside of education. Please give the attendance of your child the highest priority this year.

Should they have to be absent, then you must call the school office to inform us. Cath Gibson and Grant Short (our attendance officer) are available to support in all matters concerning attendance.

Parking:

Please try not to park too close to school. The safety of our pupils is paramount. If you need use of your car please park a short distance away from the main school entrance point. This has been better so far this year. As you know our school is situated in a place with very narrow roads that are not suitable for turning with so many children coming and going. If you see dangerous driving that could harm any of our community, please report it to school and the police.

Many thanks

Mr Brown  
Executive Head

Miss Murray  
Teacher Head of School

