

## Settling in nicely!!

We have reached the end of September and everyone has settled really well into their new classes. We are all very proud of the children for their hard work and resilience as we begin the new school year.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

One of the first jobs we complete in school is to establish our new school council. Speeches and elections have taken place over the last few weeks and we are very pleased to announce our newly formed and newly elected School Council 2022/23:

**Chairperson** ..... Harrison Crompton  
**Vice Chair** ..... Mya Braysford

#### **Class Representatives:**

**Year 1:** Hattie Owens & Ella Webster  
**Year 2:** Isla Redmond & Sofia Daly  
**Year 3:** Ava Cousins & Ezra Weston  
**Year 4:** Max Illingsworth & Blake Laidler  
**Year 5:** Vincent Faulkner & Brooke McDade  
**Year 6:** Dylan Kedian & Dawn Kershaw

All of our councillors have been presented with their School Councillor badges this morning in our Star of the Week Assembly. They should all be very pleased with their achievements and be proud to wear their badges throughout the year. Congratulations and well done to you all!!!

We will shortly be announcing our Wellbeing Ambassadors and our Eco Star Ambassadors...more news to follow!

### BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair was in school recently and was very well attended by children, parents, grandparents...in fact, it was the most successful book fair that we have held in school. The sale of books has enabled us to amass a fabulous total in commission to spend on books for school, in the classrooms and in our school library. Thank you so much for your support and generosity...every penny of commission comes straight back to school and benefits all of the children.

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS...

We have made a fabulous start to our new school year and attendance across all years has been very pleasing; it is still important for everyone to understand the importance of attendance in school. Building up a routine of regular attendance and punctuality is crucial to developing good habits through primary school and beyond, into high school.

We are always available to work with parents and to offer support should there be any issues with attendance or punctuality.

If your child is absent from school...

**PLEASE REMEMBER...** to contact the school office on the first morning of absence. If we don't hear from you, we will contact you until we have a reason for absence. Repeated unauthorised absence without a reason could result in a fixed penalty notice being issued by Sefton Council.

**ALSO...** we are unable to authorise any holidays in term time.

Holidays taken in term time will be recorded as unauthorised and may also result in a fine.

### DROP OFF AND PICK UP—CAREFUL PARKING

Please remember when dropping off and picking up children to be mindful of parking. Residents have requested that you do not park over their driveways. Please, also, be aware of parking on the double yellow lines and the zig-zags!

Parking attendants visit our school regularly before school, and have issued tickets in the past!

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Below is a list of all the clubs on offer during the autumn term.  
Information about each club will be sent out separately by the member of staff leading it.  
Clubs fill up quickly—remember to send your reply form in as soon as you can to secure your place  
Please take note of the end time of each club and ensure that your child is collected promptly.

Day	Club	Year groups	Times	Run by
Monday	Birkdale Buddies	Years 3,4,5,6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mrs Corlett, Miss Mullin, Miss Williams
Monday	Football	Years 5 & 6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mr Murphy and Mr Gallagher
Monday	Art	Year 2	3.10pm-4.10pm	Mrs Redmond and Miss Bradley
Tuesday	Choir	Years 4,5,6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mrs Menary
Tuesday	Multi Skills	Years 5 & 6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mr Murphy
Wednesday	Lunchtime Choir	Years 3,4,5,6	Lunchtime	Mrs Menary
Wednesday	Netball	Years 5 & 6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Miss Allen
Thursday	Music Tech	Year 5 & 6	3.20pm-4.20pm	Mrs Menary

### NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please remember, when adding food into packed lunches, that we are a completely **NUT FREE SCHOOL**. There are foods that contain nuts without us even realising!!! Please check ingredients lists if you are not sure. Our nut-free designation also extends to seeds and we have been advised to suggest that no sesame seeds be included in packed lunches...they can often be found on top of bread rolls.  
Thanks for your help and support in keeping the children safe in school.

### TEXT MESSAGES...PARENT MAIL

Currently we send text messages to parents which works for us at the moment, but it is limited in its use and limits the number of characters we can use in a message.

Last year we trialled a new system of communication with parents called **Parent Mail**.

**Parent Mail** enables us to send messages, just like we would send text messages, but it also enables us to send out documents, letters and extended news, keeping parents more up to date with what's happening in school.

It is our intention to ensure that all of our parents have access to **Parent Mail** through emails and, more conveniently, through the **Parent Mail app** that can be downloaded to your phone.

In this way you will be notified of messages and new information that is being sent out to parents.

We will, eventually, be phasing out our use of text messages so it's important that parents log on to Parent Mail and stay in touch!!

If you have signed up to **Parent Mail** already make sure that you have also downloaded the **Parent Mail App (ISIS)** to ensure that you have access to all that **Parent Mail** can offer.

If you haven't explored **Parent Mail** yet, contact the school office and we'll send you the 'invitation' to sign up.

**Parent Mail...Stay connected...Stay in touch!!!**

### SEND - 'KEEP IN TOUCH' - COFFEE MORNING

Mrs Grice and our Chair of Governors, Mrs McDermott, will be hosting another of our very popular 'Keep in Touch' coffee mornings very soon.

Our SEND coffee mornings aim to bring together parents who have children in school who may have particular or specific needs. This is very much a support group and an opportunity to create a network of like-minded parents who can share their experiences and help one-another.

If you would like to ask any questions, if you would like to speak to Mrs Grice or Mrs McDermott about specific issues or would just like to maintain a contact with parents in similar situations, we'd love to see you there.

**Thursday 20th October in The Hive (breakfast & after-school club room) from 9am.**

#### Contacting Us

Email us on : [admin.birkdaleprimary@schools.sefton.gov.uk](mailto:admin.birkdaleprimary@schools.sefton.gov.uk)

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