



# FLORENCE MELLY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WELCOME BACK - 2023/24 ACADEMIC YEAR!

### IF YOU CAN DREAM IT, YOU CAN DO IT!



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#### **Welcome back and let's make 2023/24 a fantastic year for the children!**

Dear parents and carers,

First and foremost, welcome to a new academic year at Florence Melly Community Primary School. For many of you, this is the start of another year at our wonderful school but for some, the very start of a new journey. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new families starting in Nursery and Reception - we are delighted that you have chosen our school as the setting responsible for educating and nurturing your children. I guarantee, we will look after them as if they were our own. You are now members of our Flo Melly family and that genuinely means a lot to us as a team.

I hope that you all enjoyed the Summer break and that you had the opportunity to spend lots of family time together. My team and I have enjoyed a well deserved break but it was a pleasure to return to huge smiles and children bounding into the playground, excited for the first day back. We are ready and raring to go; ready to provide engaging and memorable experiences that will be cherished for a long, long time!

I have a couple of quick updates, just to keep you all in the loop.

#### **New Staff**

You may have noticed a few new faces buzzing around school. We are delighted to welcome Miss McWilliams (Year 5 Teacher), Mrs Davies (EYFS Teacher), Mrs Mihai (The Nest and Year 3 Teaching Assistant) and Miss Burrow (School Allotment Teacher) to our wonderful team.

#### **School Uniform**

I have been blown away by how smart the children looked today, dressed to impress in their new uniforms. Thank you all for being so supportive with this and for adhering to our school uniform policy. More information about school uniforms can be found on our school website: <https://florencemelly.org/parents/school-uniform/>.

#### **The Heatwave**

It's somewhat ironic that the Summer finally decides to land, just as the children return to school. The weather forecast is extremely hot for the next few days; please make sure that you send your child into school with sun cream applied, hats and refillable water bottles. Keeping them safe is our number one priority!

#### **PE Kits and PE Days**

PE will start from Tuesday 12th September. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct PE kit. No football kits are allowed. Thank you for your support with this.

- **Tuesday** - Year 1 and Year 6
- **Wednesday** - Reception, Year 2 and Year 5
- **Thursday** - Year 3 and Year 4

## Dates for your Diary

We are in the process of finalising lots of dates for a whole variety of up and coming events and these will be communicated to you through our weekly newsletters, our website and Twitter feeds and via email.

Here are just a couple that we have finalised; add them to your diary:

- Monday 18th September 2023 - Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) 'The First Chapter' meet and greet session.
- Friday 22nd September 2023 - Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) 'The First Chapter' meet and greet session.
- Monday 25th September 2023 - Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) 'The First Chapter' meet and greet session.
- Friday 29th September 2023 - Early Years (Nursery and Reception) 'The First Chapter' stay and play session.
- Tuesday 2nd October 2023 - SEND coffee morning looking at Zones of Regulation.
- Monday 16th October 2023 - Individual and sibling photographs.
- Tuesday 14th November 2023 - SEND coffee morning with the ASD Training Team.
- Friday 17th November 2023 - Children in Need SPOTacular party.
- Monday 20th November 2023 - Parents' evening.
- Monday 4th December 2023 - School nurses in school to administer the flu immunisation (more information to follow).
- Tuesday 12th December 2023 - Safeguarding coffee morning with Mr Baillie exploring online safety.

Our meet and greet sessions are part of a new initiative designed to encourage our parents/carers to come into school, engage with their child's learning and see what we have been getting up to. The sessions this half-term are called 'The First Chapter' and will have a reading focus. We will confirm the times of the events shortly. We would absolutely love to see you there (and I'm sure that your child/children would too).

## Term Dates

Printable copies of our term dates for this year and next year are available on our school website: <https://florencemelly.org/parents/term-dates/>. These can be downloaded, printed and put up on your fridge for easy reference. We hope that they help! Alternatively, you can collect printed versions from our school office. Never forget, we are always here to help!

We have also included the term dates in a calendar view format, for those of you who would prefer them this way.

**Every day counts** and good attendance (97% or more) is absolutely vital if your child is to make good progress in all areas of school life. Please can you check the term dates to ensure that no holidays or time off is taken during school time. I appreciate that there are always exceptional circumstances and, in these cases, please speak to the school office, or another member of the team, about the procedures to follow.

## Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. I wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get



Mr Leach  
Headteacher

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