

Bartons Primary School Newsletter 1 8th September 2017



A very warm welcome to you all. I hope that you and your family had a great summer break and are looking forward

to the new school year. We have lots of new and exciting activities planned and I know that the children will have an amazing year. It was wonderful to see the children in the new uniform all looking rested, happy and so smart. It was lovely to look at them all in assembly and see the new sweatshirts and cardigans gone are the yellow polo shirts and old sweatshirts. Thank you everyone for your co-operation on switching over; the rebranding is perfect timing as we now have Year R - Year 6. Just as a reminder, please ensure that children have sensible, suitable school shoes and **do not** wear trainers as part of their uniform at any time.

All Things New

Over the holidays, Mr Cook worked hard to get the school ready for the new term. This included the addition of the new Year 6 classroom which looks great. This term we welcome four new staff members. Mrs Ali Powell who is our new Deputy Headteacher and SENCo. She will also teach in Oak class. She is hugely experienced and we are thrilled that she has joined us. Mrs Calton also joins us as Lime class teacher in Year 5. Mrs Spencer is a new teaching assistant and will work in Elm class with Year R and Mrs Wotton is also a new teaching assistant and will work in Willow class with Year 5. Sadly, Mrs Grantham left over the summer break and won't be returning. Congratulations to Miss Petts who got married in the summer and who is now Mrs Leckey. We hope that our new Team Bartons members will really enjoy working at our happy school. Thank you

On behalf of the staff, thank you so much to all of you that wrote cards and who gave thank you gifts at the end of term. You were so generous and they were all appreciated so much by everyone.

Thank you and best wishes. Mrs Kate Powell

n <u>Welcome</u>

Welcome to our new children and families who have started school this term in Elm class (Year R). It has been lovely to see them enjoying their new surroundings and looking so smart. We also welcome other new children to other classes across the school. They are Blossom and Charlie. We hope you have enjoyed your first few days and settle quickly.

The Start of the School Term

One of the areas which Headteachers are required to oversee is school attendance and this includes children arriving at school on time. Please ensure that the children arrive at school on time by the latest 9am and that they have everything that they need i.e. P.E kit. The school gates will be locked by <u>9.05am</u> and any late arrivals will then need to be signed in at the main school office and a reason given for being late. This is to ensure that lessons can begin on time without any disruptions. Punctuality really enables children to settle more quickly and to get into good habits and routines. This year, lateness will be monitored very closely as will attendance. Bartons attendance figures need to improve significantly and external agencies will be involved for families that fall short of the expected attendance figure. Please avoid booking family holidays during school terms as they will not be authorised. Pupils are in school for 190 days each year which leaves 175 other days for holidays and activities. Research has shown that missed schooling does impact learning. Also please avoid booking routine medical and dental appointments during the school day. Thank you.

School INSET Dates (2017-2018)

Please make a note of the following dates where school will be closed to pupils for staff training.

MONDAY: 19th FEBRUARY 2018 MONDAY: 7th MAY - National Bank Holiday MONDAY: 23rd JULY 2018

TUESDAY: 24th JULY 2018

Please find attached a full list of school event dates for the school year. As a working parent myself, I understand how important it is for you to have dates well in advance so you can plan your diaries and know when things are happening. Throughout the year, other events will be planned e.g. school trips or visits and letters will be sent home with all of the relevant information. Please check the school website because the main dates and other useful information will be on there too.