



4th September 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer! Team Standlake are very excited about the start of the new academic year and welcoming your children back to school.

I thought it would be helpful to send you a letter outlining a few things for next week and give you some reminders of other general school information and expectations.

Annual Whole School River Walk & Picnic: Friday 8th September: 11.00am - 3.00pm

We will be walking all the children from Year 1 to Year 6 down to the river. The children will need to come in appropriate walking clothes and bring a packed lunch and drink on the day. If your child is entitled to a Free School Meal and you would like a 'school packed lunch', please speak to the school office by Wednesday 6th. Parents are welcome to join us. If you are intending on joining us, please email the school office so we know numbers on the day.

The School Day: 8.45am - 3.15pm

The children will be met by the class teacher at the door and are expected to be lined up by 8.45am. Doors will close at 8.50pm. Children arriving after this time will need to go to the office and will be marked as 'late'.

PE days:

Murphy (Nursery and Reception): Monday and Forest School on a Friday

Donaldson (Year 1&2): Thursday and Friday

Dahl (Year 3&4): Tuesday and Wednesday

Morpurgo (Year 4&5): Tuesday and Thursday

Shakespeare (Year 5&6): Monday and Wednesday

Children get changed for PE in school, so must arrive in normal school uniform. However, we ask that the children in Murphy class come to school in their PE kit, for the Autumn and Spring terms.

Swimming: Starts on Tuesday 12th September

This week, we will let parents of children in Dahl and Morpurgo class know if their child is going swimming.

Class Website Page

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be updating the class pages on the website so you can see the timetable for the week and find out what the children are learning.

Here's to the new academic year!

Warm regards,
Andrew Denham

Pick up and Drop Off

Parents are responsible for their children before pick-up and after drop-off times. To promote resilience, independence and a calmer start to the school day for all the children, parents are asked not to come into the corridors, cloakrooms or classrooms with their children. All children will be collected and dismissed from the classroom door or playground and taken into the classroom by a member of staff. **Children who have not been collected by 3.20pm will be taken to the Standlake Superstars provision where parents will be charge £7, regardless of the amount of time they spend there.**

Packed Lunches

Children in Key Stage 2 classes need to put their lunch box on the trolley outside the office at the start of the school day. Murphy and Donaldson children are to take them into their classroom.

School Dinners

School lunches are £2.77 per day and can be pre-ordered by parents at home on School Grid or the children can choose the meal on the day at school. Parents need to have an account with Dolce Schools Catering company to order lunches. Ask at the office for a joining pack. Please ensure that your account is kept in credit at all times and that any outstanding payments are paid by the end of the week. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have their lunches funded by the governments Universal Free School Meals so do not need to pay.

Uniform

Spot checks will be carried out and letters sent home for children not in correct uniform. If available, we will provide children with uniform from lost property, so they meet the schools' expectations on the day:

- ❖ Royal Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with logo
- ❖ White 'polo' t-shirt or shirt
- ❖ Plain black, grey or navy trousers or shorts
- ❖ Plain black, grey or navy skirt or blue and white checked dress
- ❖ Plain black, grey, navy or white socks/tights
- ❖ Sensible, flat heeled, dark shoes or sandals that protect & support the feet. Trainers, high boots and high heels are not acceptable
- ❖ Black Sweatshirt for the Year 6 children only
Order from: www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk
- ❖ FREE, as good as new uniform is available on

Snacks

Murphy and Donaldson are provided with free fresh fruit. Children in Year 3 upwards are required to bring their own HEALTHY snack into school e.g., a piece of fruit or cereal bar. No chocolate bars or crisps at break time. If you are sending your young child in with grapes, please cut them in half.

Walking or Cycling to School

90% of our pupils live in Standlake. It would be good to see more children walking or cycling to school to reduce the number of cars around at pick-up and drop-off. Year 6 child can walk to and from school with written permission.

Label Uniform

PLEASE label your children's uniform! When it is labelled, staff will endeavour to reunite uniform with its owner, otherwise it will be put in the lost property. We expect that children from Year 2 upwards to take responsibility. Staff should not be held responsible for lost uniform!

Tuck Shop

Tuck shop is open to the whole school and is held on Fridays during break-time. The cost is £5 (using Parent Mail) a seasonal term starting Friday 8th September.

Communication

Parents are able to contact the class teachers in a number of ways: outside of the classroom at the start and end of the day. Please keep conversations brief at the start of the day so teachers can get on with starting the day with the whole class – they would be very happy to meet with you after school if you need a longer discussion. You can also leave a phone message or send an email via the office that will be passed on to the class teacher. We will endeavour to get back to you within 24 hours. All communications, including permission forms will come through ParentMail. Please make sure you are registered and contact the office if you need to set up an account.

Social Media

Please use the communication channels outlined above to share any concerns you may have about the school. Doing so using social media can be hurtful, often fails to present a balanced account of the issue and is not a good way of resolving a problem.

No nuts in school

We have a couple of children and staff with severe nut allergies so please do not send your children in with any food that contains nuts.

Home Learning

This goes out on a Wednesday and needs to be returned on the Monday.

ParentMail

We are a 'cashless payment' school. All payments (apart from lunches, that are through School Grid) need to be done online through ParentMail. Please contact the school if you do not have an account.

Reading Diaries

All of the children will be given a new reading diary. We hope that you will find the diaries helpful as they give some tips on how to read with your child. We would like the children to be reading every day and for you to 'sign off' that they have read with you or independently. Children who reach reading milestones will receive a sticker and a mention in our assembly.

Attendance

We expect children to be in school every day. If your child is sick, please call the school office by 9am to let us know. We regularly monitor the children's attendance and parents will be notified if their attendance drops below 96%. We do not authorise holidays during term time but may grant compassionate or special leave in exceptional circumstances. Any requests to take a child out of school during term time must go through the office.

Parking

Please use the car park by the church rather than the main road or outside local houses. We often get phone calls from local residents upset about driveways being blocked or parking that prevents them from having a clear line of sight as they come out of their driveways.

Free School Meals

You can get Free School Meals for your child if you or your partner gets either: Universal Credit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit, Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of £16,190 or less, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. If you think you might be entitled to free school meals please contact the school office for a Free School Meal form. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 and 2 they will receive the universal free school meals. However please still let the office know if you think you are entitled to free school meals because it will provide the school with additional funding.

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