

27th November 2020

Coats

You will have noticed that there has been a definite change in the weather with the recent frost and chilly starts to the mornings. With this in mind, please can you ensure that you send your children to school wearing a coat and hat. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

Reception Class—Admission arrangements for entry in 2021

If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017, they will be eligible to start our Reception class in September 2021. **This applies to all our current Nursery pupils.** However, the Reception admission arrangements mean that if your child is in our Nursery you do not automatically get a place for your child in this school next year for the Reception classes. You will need to apply online for a Reception place at the following site by **15 January 2021**:

<https://eadmissions.birmingham.gov.uk/>

If you require help with filling in your online admission form, please contact the school office. The decision regarding school place allocation will be made by Birmingham City Council and communicated to parents on 16 April 2021.

Parents Evening

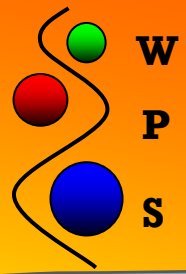
Due to the coronavirus situation, we will not be holding a face-to face parents' evening this year. Instead next week teachers from your child's class (Reception to Year 6) will be calling home between 4.00pm and 7.00pm and will have a phone conversation with parents/carers instead. Each call will last approximately 5 minutes and give you information about your child's performance in English and mathematics.

Isolation of Year 1

Children and staff in Year 1 are currently isolating due to a confirmed case of Covid-19 in their setting. The Year 1 teachers have posted lessons online on our website. We hope you make some time to access these lessons and work with your children at home.

Westminster Primary News

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Attendance

Last term because of the coronavirus situation, the Local Authority relaxed some of the regulations associated with attendance procedures. However, from the 2nd November, attendance procedures are back in place. This means that you must ensure that your child attends school regularly. If you do not send your child to school without a valid reason (such as isolation due to Covid-19 or other illness) and their attendance falls below 94%, the attendance procedure will take effect. We will try our best to engage with families where attendance is a concern in order to resolve the situation. The first part of this procedure will involve a letter being sent to you outlining our concerns. This will be followed up by a meeting with the Parent Support Advisor to address any issues. If no improvement is made, this will result in a 'Fast Track' procedure where your child's attendance will be formally monitored for 6 weeks. Again if no improvements are made, a referral will be made to the Education Legal Intervention Team (ELIT). This may result in a penalty, such as a fine, being applied to each parent/carer.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please do speak to Mrs Khan (Parent Support Advisor) and we will work with you to ensure we can address this.

Christmas Lunch

The children will be having their Christmas lunch on the 9th December 2020. The menu has been posted around school. If your child would like to have a Christmas lunch in school, please pay the school office before the 9th December. The cost of the meal is £2.40. Please ensure money is placed in an envelope and labelled with your child's name and class. Pupils in classes Reception to Year 2 do not need to pay.

Term Dates

Autumn Term Ends: Thurs 17th December 2020

Teacher training day: Fri 18th December 2020

Spring Term Starts: Monday 4 Jan 2021

Half Term: Mon 15 Feb 2021 to Fri 19 Feb 2021

Return to school: Mon 22nd Feb 2021

Spring Term Ends: Thursday 1st April 2021

Easter Hols: Fri 2nd Apr to Fri 16 Apr 2021

Return to school: Mon 19 April 2021

Thank you

These are very difficult times for everyone and the staff have been working hard to provide a safe and productive learning environment for our children. We appreciate that times are also very difficult for parents and we greatly appreciate the support that you are providing for us.

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Parking

Thank you to all of you who have made adjustments to our request for parking more considerately around the school roads. However, we are still getting reports of cars pulling up and parking on the pavements outside the school gates. This is very dangerous as we have families with children walking on the pavement. These actions could cause a serious accident. We again urge you to stop parking outside the school entrances and also not to park on the zig-zag lines. Further, please do not park on corners of neighbouring roads as this blocks the view of pedestrians and other car users. Please do the right thing and park further away and walk to school. Please do not let one of our children suffer serious injury or worse for the sake of walking a few minutes.

Reception Class—Pirate Day

The children in Reception have been learning about pirates this week and took part in ‘Pirate Day’ yesterday. They made telescopes and treasure maps, made their pirate ships, went on a treasure hunt and even walked the plank! They linked their mathematical skills with their pirate activities.



Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 11th December will be Christmas Jumper day! Send your child in to school wearing a Christmas jumper or any warm jumper! We are asking if children can bring in £1 to go towards the ‘Save the Children’ charity.

