

7th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

I very much hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and that your children are looking forward to the exciting year of learning ahead.

As well as enjoying the summer holidays, the staff have been busy preparing for the new term and attending training: Medical Needs, First Aid, Autism Awareness, Safeguarding, Mental Health and Wellbeing.

I have just a few reminders from our training to share with you:

Safeguarding your children is our most important role. Please do speak with us if you have any concerns about a child or adult; we are here to help and to keep everyone safe.

For the safety and well-being of our school community - particularly those with asthma - please refrain from smoking near the school gates and switch car engines off if stationary. If your child has asthma and has had additional inhaler puffs administered, please alert staff.

To safeguard members of our school community with nut allergies, we are a strict nut free school. Please do not include any nut products (including Nutella products) in packed lunches.

Moving on from staff training, please be aware there is very little car parking space around school. Worryingly, as a result of this there were a number of 'near misses' last academic year. Please help us to keep our community safe and make use of the Park and Stride Scheme available to all. Contact the school office for a permit, which will entitle you to free parking at drop off and pickup times at Newbridge Lane car park.

There are many, many more financial challenges for our school community this Autumn. Please do contact school if you require a Food Bank Voucher to support your family (Mrs Bommer, Miss Green and the school office staff will be able to issue them).

We have a team of professionals who support our school community; a School Nurse, an Education Welfare Officer, a Linked Social Worker and a School Age Plus Worker. Please do contact myself or Mrs Bommer, our Pastoral Manager, if you feel we or any of the team can be of any help.

A huge amount of lost property was unclaimed last academic year. Please clearly label all of your children's personal belongings - including coats and shoes.

As always, if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher via Class Dojo, email (please do not expect an immediate response from teachers during the school day or when school is closed), telephoning the school office or in person.

As we start a new school year please can I remind all parents who use our Before and After School Clubs that we are unable to accept any bookings on the day. To ensure your child's safety, it is essential that we have the correct staff to children ratio, which we need to organise in advance. For this reason, we are unable to accommodate any late pick-ups from school; please ensure you either arrive at school on time, or pre-book and pay for a place. If your child is not booked into either Breakfast or After school Club, you will receive a phone call to collect your child with immediate effect and you will incur a late pick-up charge.

Thank you to the staff from Barclays Bank who came into school for a day during the school holiday to tidy the woodland area and paint play equipment and fences in Key Stage 1.

If you have a pre-school child, child in our Nursery or a child in Year 6 the closing dates for applying for school places for September 2023 are as follows:

Year 7 (Secondary School) - 31st October 2022

Reception - 15th January 2023

Nursery - 31st March 2023

Applications can be made online on the Stockport Council website.

I am looking forward to another successful year at Vernon Park, working together with yourselves for the benefit of your children.

Yours sincerely

Claire E Lee
Head Teacher