



**WARLEY
ROAD**
Academy

Autumn Term News

It's nearly time to open our doors once again and welcome you back to, what I hope will be a much more stable and 'normal' academic year. We have numerous plans, which will ensure that pupils at Warley Road receive a broad, ambitious, and exciting curriculum. Last year despite key stage 2 SATs not taking place in the usual format, we know that 73% of the Y6 cohort started their secondary education achieving the expected standard in Reading, writing and maths. A record number of Y6 pupils also transferred to grammar school (11 in total), and attendance levels during the last term were the highest in the school. Over the summer break a considerable amount of work has been completed with both structural and decorative work in all areas of school. We are now proud of our smart buildings and surroundings, which reflect 'quality, consistency and provision', a key theme for school improvement over the last 18 months.

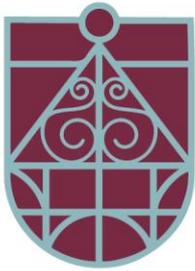
I sincerely hope that once term has started, we can start to welcome parents and carers back into the building on a regular basis to share and be part of the numerous activities taking place. Please take the time to read this longer than usual newsletter, which has details about the new term, staffing and more specifically arrangements relating to Covid 19 and how, together, we can resume a more familiar school year, albeit with safety measures in place and at the forefront of our thinking.

Summer improvements

- New toilet facilities for Years 2,3,4
- Years 2,3,4 classrooms re-decorated, including a refurbished key stage 1 landing area. All coat hooks will now be in classrooms.
- Refurbished office spaces, which includes a larger reception area for visitors.
- Extensive re-design of early years, including a larger outdoor play space, new cloakroom, and toilet area. The indoor spaces provide an opportunity to create areas of provision specifically designed for early learning.

Staffing news

- Welcome to Mr Morgan- Senior leader working in key stage 1 and leading improvements in Maths.
- Mrs Franklyn has left Bobbin's nursery and Mrs Davison is now on maternity leave.
- Mrs Iqbal and Mrs Donnelly also left at the end of last term. Miss Hutton, Mrs Patel and Mrs Hussain will now be dealing with all matters relating to attendance. Dinner money and Paypal enquires should be directed to Mrs Frankland. Mrs Fielding (kitchen manager) will also be able to help with lunchtime and breakfast club arrangements.



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COVID19

You will have heard the news about changes to restrictions in relation to COVID 19. The DfE have told us that:

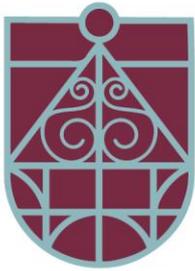
'As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to children and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to children are extremely low, and every adult has been offered a first vaccine and the opportunity for 2 doses by mid-September'

In school this means that:

- We will no longer operate the 'bubble' system for organising classes and activities.
- Close contacts are no longer required to self-isolate (if they are under 18 years old or are fully vaccinated) but must instead get a PCR test if contacted by NHS Track and Trace.
- Face coverings are no longer required, but please expect to see staff wearing masks. We may also ask parents and visitors to wear masks for meetings and activities which involve crowds of people.
- A new risk assessment and 'outbreak management plan' will be added to our website shortly. An 'outbreak' is classed as either 5 pupils or staff or 10% of the school population. In the case of an outbreak, we will notify public health and seek guidance.
- Attendance at school remains an absolute priority and you must ensure your child attends school every day (this is your legal duty as a parent) except if they are ill or showing symptoms of COVID, in which case you must communicate with school and your child should return as soon as they are well enough. Attendance T-shirts will be given out again at the end of the Autumn term.

Arrangements for the start and end of the day

- Nursery and Reception: all children enter through the bottom gate into Stoodley playground. Staff will direct parents to the new Early Years outdoor area.
- Year 1 & 2: enter through the top gate into Harewood playground.
- Year 3: enter through the top gate into Harewood playground.
- Year 4, 5 & 6: enter through the bottom gate into Stoodley playground.
- As before, staff will meet children just before (8.45am) The bell will ring at 8.50am. Please leave your child with their teacher and leave the playgrounds as soon as possible. Harewood Place will continue to be closed to allow for social distancing and we would encourage all parents to wear masks at this time.
- Arrangements for collection at the end of the day will mirror the start of the day and staff will be around to support on the 8th.



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Curriculum news

Watch out for more news and remember to download the school App and follow us on Twitter to find out more about the following initiatives:

- Toffee Town; 'People & Places
- Music lessons with Calderdale music service
- Swimming lessons recommence with Mr Noden
- First aid training for Year 5
- Biking and climbing activities for KS2
- Visit to Nell Bank for Year 1
- Residential to Malham for Year 5
- Additional support for reading in Year 1 & 2
- Tuition for upper KS2

Finally

I hope everyone has had a lovely summer break and managed to find time to relax with family and friends. I was made to feel welcomed and supported during my first year at Warley Road and I'd like to thank the Warley Road community for their patience and resilience during the challenging times we all faced together. I remain ever hopeful that life at Warley Road will return to normal and that disruption to pupil's learning will be kept to an absolute minimum. I'm keen to get parents back in the building and will be opening the library after school for family use as soon as possible.

Enjoy the remainder of the holiday and I'll look forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday 8th September.

Kind regards

Lesley Heathcote

Headteacher