



The Messenger

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What a year it's been! We've made it to the end, albeit limped. On behalf of everyone in school 'Thank you' for your support, patience and understanding in what has been another very difficult year. We look forward with hope, new light and no disruptions in the next academic year (!) We must also thank you for your kindness in the gifts you and your children have brought us, they are very much appreciated and valued.

We were so sorry to have to send some Y4 pupils home earlier in the week and all of Y5 home yesterday, though we have to follow public health and local authority advice at times like these. I must also state, it is no one's fault- we are all susceptible to the virus and we all have to manage this as best as we can, which is never easy.

I wish you all a happy and safe summer break, in whatever form that takes, to relax, recharge and enjoy the downtime.

Happy Fridaaaaaaaaaay!!!

See you in September...

E J Byrne

Any overdue lunch money needs to be paid today before 3PM please.

Covid-19 Operational Guidance for September 2021

Our aim is that school returns to normal school practices when we return in September. It is almost two months away and anything can happen between now and then. However, as we learn to live with and manage this virus, we must still operate with a cautious approach to our risk assessment and control measures. New operational guidance (July 2021) informs we no longer need to operate 'bubbles' thus keeping all

classes separate. We can have assemblies together again and we won't have to avoid mixing classes at lunchtime. That said, our control measures will still include:

- **Good hygiene practices for everyone**
- **Maintain effective cleaning regimes**
- **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**
- **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19.**

We will have an 'outbreak management plan' ready to implement if there is a requirement and bubbles need to be re-introduced as part of a local plan, if we need to reduce mixing again. Any decision to reintroduce bubbles however would not be taken lightly and would need to take account of the detrimental impact they can have on the delivery of education. I sincerely hope we don't have to go there again...

What happens if a pupil or staff member develops symptoms?

All should follow public health advice. No one should come onto the school site if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on the virus. (e.g. quarantine)

If any pupil/adult develops symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and should follow public health advice.

If a pupil is identified as being a 'close contact' with a positive case, they will not need to self-isolate (from 16 August). This in itself will reduce the number of pupils missing school because of isolation requirements. It will only be children/adults with confirmed positive cases that will need to isolate.

If there is any change in our approach because of the changing nature of restriction then we will advise via the school website and use our school facebook/twitter feeds.

SCHOOL TIMINGS

Our timings will return for all. Our school day begins at 8:40 and ends at 3:00.

Children can start arriving between 8:20-8:40 (but please see your child through the main side gate) and wait on the school playground till classes line up and begin entry into school. NEW starters in Reception will have a 2-day transition on Thursday and Friday (2nd and 3rd) beginning at 9:00 till 12:00 and 1:00 till 3:00.

NEW STARTERS

From Monday 6th September, we will invite parents of Reception children to bring them onto the playground outside their classroom at 8:45. This is where you will see your children into school. We then ask you to continue following the school path to exit via the Whizz Kids gate. At the end of day, you are welcome to walk around to the rear playground by this same gate and wait for your child to exit at 3:00. Once your child is confident enough in school and becomes used to routines, we encourage them to come through the gates by themselves (or with their Y6 buddy) just before the October half-term, and just before 8:40 each day.

Arrival and Exit procedures

class	Arrival time and location	exit time and location	Parent waiting
Reception	8:45 Whizz Kids gate	3:00 class outside area	Rear playground
Year 1	8:20-8:40 main gate	KS1 playground	Rear playground
Year 2	8:20-8:40 main gate	Y2 external door, rear pathway	Rear pathway
Year 3	8:20-8:40 main gate	Main gate	Front of school, pathway, near bicycle shelter
Year 4	8:20-8:40 main gate	Main gate	
Year 5	8:20-8:40 main gate	Main gate	
Year 6	8:20-8:40 main gate	Main gate	

Uniform

Children will be expected to wear their school uniform each day from September. Their PE kits are to brought into school and changed into when in school.

PE Days for September

NB: Reception children on the 2-day transition will not need their PE kits.

Reception	Thursday	A further PE session will be confirmed in September by your child's class teacher.
Year 1	Tuesday	
Year 2	Wednesday	
Year 3	Wednesday	
Year 4	Tuesday	
Year 5	Friday	
Year 6	Friday	

New Staffing

We welcome two new staff member to the St Gabriel's family in September. Mrs Sarah Maguire will be teaching in Year 3 with Mrs Johnson. Mrs Maguire will be working with us on a Thursday and Friday each week.

We also welcome Mrs Yvonne Brown who will be working alongside Mrs Schauer in Year 5. We are delighted to have had the opportunity to work with both new staff in recent weeks in preparation. They will be excellent additions to our team and we look forward to them working with us from September.

General Reminders for September

Staff carpark – will remain only a staff carpark. If you are collecting from Whizz Kids, please park on the main road/ or allotment car park.

Alsager Council have written to me to request that car engines, when waiting, are not left to 'idle'. Please be considerate and turn off.

Absence – please ensure you call the school office to report absence if your child is ill (not contact teacher).

One-way System – please remember to use the 'unofficial' one-way system of only driving up Well Lane (from Cedar Avenue). This helps reduce any potential congestion problems.

School Lunch Payment - Payments for lunch have had two products on school spider this year (Overdue and daily lunch dates). This will change in September along with the price of a hot meal which **will go up to £2.40 per day**. IT is important that you pay for lunches on a Monday for the following week. The 'date' option will be available to pay for lunches for the half-term. Please keep a track of your lunch payments and if you have paid for a date it will disappear from your spider account.

New parents and parents waiting on playground- Please supervise your children in the playground and do not use the new play equipment whilst waiting. Thank you.

Bag2School Collection of clothing and unwanted items brought in just over £100!
(£100.20 😊) A huge thank you to everyone that contributed. We will put this money towards
new reading books we will purchase next term.

And finally...

Our award winners for this year

	Stars of the Year	Progress Award Winners	Mission Award Winners
Reception	Eoin McCann	Abigail Simpson	Emmeline Poole
Year 1	Nyah Luxford	Alexei Nelson	Ruby Lusher
Year 2	Maya Thorpe	Heidi Schauer	Dollie Ankers
Year 3	Wilson Jones	Alfie Markham	Rafaella Gray
Year 4	Daniel Khan	Isaac Khan	Christopher Schauer
Year 5	Helena Wierzbicka	Charlie Leese	Isaac Parkes
Year 6	Daniel Melody	Evie Heywood	Hannah Percy

Congratulations to all!

See you all in your new classes in September!

Have a wonderful summer!

