

# NEWSLETTER



Old Park Primary School Newsletter

September 2023

Welcome back and welcome to our new children and their families.

The children have returned full of confidence and the huge majority have all settled into their classes really well. It is still early days and the children have been at home for a long time so it is expected that a few children may be finding it difficult to leave you in the mornings. Once they are in school they settle very quickly and enjoy their busy days.

It has been lovely to see that the children returned remembering both our school values and the makaton signs they learned last year. Our new Y1 class are quickly grasping these signs too. Ask your children the signs that they know and get them to talk to you about our values.

Optimism   Love of Learning   Diversity   Perseverance  
Ambition   Responsibility   Kindness.

Attendance - Your children are amazing and we want to see them everyday.

Thank you, we have a huge number of children still at 100% attendance so far and we hope that this continues across the year. We want to maximise the time that children are in school to ensure they develop in confidence, progress in learning and are able to maintain strong friendships. We will continue to celebrate and promote good attendance throughout the year.

## Ambition

At Old Park we want all of our children to aim high, throughout our curriculum we promote our value of ambition. We want our children to always do their best and understand the opportunities that are available to them. Part of this promotion happens during our house assembly where we look at the A - Z of careers, we are also exploring career paths that link to the subjects we teach in lesson time. Showing children why their learning is important.

## Helping hand....

We are extremely lucky to have a few amazing volunteers in school but we need more help. We are looking for volunteers who may have time to give. As a school we want to continue providing the enjoyable extras for our children to ensure they get the best from their time at Primary and thrive. Unfortunately, with increasing pressures upon the school budget it is becoming very difficult to ensure this. If you would like to volunteer in school and can give us regular time to help with a range of things or just want more information then please contact the school office. Any volunteers will need to undergo a DBS check. Email us @ [school.office@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:school.office@oldparkprimary.com) We are grateful for any time you can give. Thank you.

## Annual Calendar

THESE DATES ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF SENDING, PLEASE CHECK THE  
ONLINE ANNUAL CALENDAR AT [OLDPARKPRIMARY.COM](http://OLDPARKPRIMARY.COM)  
REGULARLY FOR ANY CHANGES/ADDITIONS

### September 2023

Monday 25th Sept	5L - walk around Wednesbury 1-3pm
Tuesday 26th Sept	Reading Volunteer Coffee Session
Wednesday 27th Sept	5W - walk around Wednesbury 1-3pm
Thursday 28th Sept	Skip-a-thon (Reception - Year 6)
Friday 29th Sept	Year 3W Swimming 1.15 - 1.45

### October 2023

Tue 3rd Oct	Y1 Parent Maths Workshop 2pm
Wed 4th Oct	Exploration Day for Year 4, 5 & 6
Thur 5th Oct	Exploration Day for Year 1, 2 & 3
Fri 6th Oct	Year 3W Swimming 1.15 - 1.45
Mon 9th Oct	We Are Readers Celebration Week Book Fair (details to follow)
Tue 10th Oct	We Are Readers Celebration Week Mental Health Awareness Day - staff and pupils to wear something yellow (non-uniform, no charge) Book Fair (details to follow)
Wed 11th Oct	We Are Readers Celebration Week School Photographs Book Fair (details to follow)
Thur 12th Oct	We Are Readers Celebration Week
Fri 13th Oct	We Are Readers Celebration Week Year 3W Swimming 1.15 - 1.45
Tue 17th Oct	EYFS, Year 1 and 2 parent consultations Rec and Year 2 - 3.20pm - 6.15pm Nursery - 3.30 - 6.15pm To be held in the Hobbs Centre
Wed 18th Oct	EYFS, Year 1 and 2 parent consultations Rec and Year 2 - 3.20pm - 6.15pm Nursery - 3.30 - 6.15pm To be held in the Hobbs Centre
Thur 19th Oct	House Attendance Winner - Non-Uniform Day (for the winning house only).
Fri 20th oct	Year 3W Swimming 1.15 - 1.45
Wed 25th Oct	Halloween Disco Non uniform day for EYFS only - 1.45pm - 3pm (in school) Y1, Y2 & Y3: 4.00pm - 5.15pm, Year 4, 5 & 6: 5.30pm - 6.45pm
Fri 27th Oct	Year 3W Swimming 1.15 - 1.45 50p non-uniform - Show Racism the Red card Last day of school
Half term	

## Admission Arrangements – September 2024

### Secondary school – year 7 pupils

The application window for parents of current year 6 pupils to apply online for a secondary place is open. Please note, the national closing date is 31st October 2023.

### Reception Class

The application for parents of current nursery children (D.O.B: 1/9/2019-1/8/2020) to apply online for a reception place is open  
Please note, the closing date is 15th January 2024.

Can you please inform the school office when you have completed your online application either by ringing or emailing [school.office@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:school.office@oldparkprimary.com). Please check you have received an online receipt as confirmation you have submitted your application correctly. It is important to keep this receipt safe.

## SCHOOL LUNCHES - SCHOOL GRID

From September 2023, Dolce have implemented a pre-pay system so you will no longer be able to book meals and pay later.

If your child is moving from Year 2 to 3 in September then unless you are in receipt of free school meals you will need to make payment for the meals ordered. Universal Free Schools meals are for Reception, year 1&2 pupils only.

There are lot of uneaten meals due to parents booking but also sending in a packed lunch. We do not want to waste food so please unbook the meal if it is not wanted.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE MORNING TO TRY TO LOG ONTO SCHOOL GRID TO BOOK A SCHOOL MEAL.. YOUR CHILD WILL ONLY RECEIVE A JACKET POTATO IF THE SITE IS UNAVAILABLE..

Thank you



## JEANS FOR GENES DAY FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2023

Thank you to everyone who donated to  
Jeans for Genes  
We raised £175.78, well done!



Reception Children Over 5'S  
Please let us know if your child still  
requires milk after their 5th birthday  
It has to be ordered and costs  
26p per day - payable by Arbor.  
'School Shop'



IF ANY PARENT WISHES  
TO BUY A WATER  
BOTTLE THEY  
ARE AVAILABLE FROM  
THE SCHOOL OFFICE  
£1.65 (CASH ONLY)



### Book Bags/Satchels

We have red book bags for sale (Nursery to Year 2)  
and also satchels (Year 3 to Year 6)

Prices:

Red Book Bags £6.50

Satchels Red (New Logo) £8.50, Black (Old Logo) £5.00



### BIRTHDAYS

Please do not send your child into school with sweets or chocolates for Birthdays. Natasha's law is in place to protect children and ensures any food provided by or via the school has to be agreed in advance by parents.

If you wish to send in something to mark a birthday celebration you can send in non-food items or wrap a book for the class reading area.



### PE KITS & House Colour T-Shirts

You can now order PE t-shirts via Clive Mark at the store in Walsall, they are not currently available on the website but you can order them in store and wait for confirmation of delivery from Clive Mark.

Contact Details & Address: 01922 622 556, Units 40-44 Saddlers Centre,  
1 Park St, Walsall, WS1 1YS

PE Tracksuits (£10.99 for the full tracksuit)

Below is the link for you to order replacement tracksuits online:

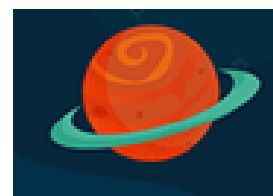
[https://www.decathlon.co.uk/p/kids-warm-zip-up-tracksuit-warmy/\\_/R-p-334795?mc=8652081&c=GREY\\_BLUE](https://www.decathlon.co.uk/p/kids-warm-zip-up-tracksuit-warmy/_/R-p-334795?mc=8652081&c=GREY_BLUE)



BOOK YOUR CHILD'S MEAL VIA SCHOOLGRID

## THEMED MENU

### CENSUS DAY



Asteroid Battered  
Chicken Nuggets

Venus Veggie Burger in a Bun (VG)



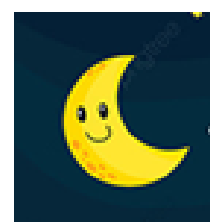
Jacket Potato (Choice Of Filling) (GF)

Sandwich of your choice

Guardian Fries of the Galaxy

Jupiter Jelly & Ice Cream

Cosmic Cookie (VG) (DF)



Fresh Fruit (VG) (GF)



EVERY CHILD WILL  
RECEIVE A  
ROCKET TORCH



PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT IF NEEDED

## Breakfast Care Provision

The School provides a Breakfast Provision. If you are interested in applying for annual membership please contact: [breakfast@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:breakfast@oldparkprimary.com)

Children will be provided with breakfast each day and take part in a range of activities.

Annual Membership options are below:

**Cost: £4.25 Early Bird from 7.45am each day**

**Cost: £3.25 Normal from 7.30am each day**

## After School Provision

The School provides an After School Provision. If you think you will require a place for After School Provision, please contact [afterschool@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:afterschool@oldparkprimary.com)

Children will be provided with a light snack and take part in a range of activities.

Annual Membership options are below:

**Cost: £9.00 each day until 5.00pm**

**Cost: £10.50 each day until 5.30pm**

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Please be aware that there may be a waiting list.

Please read the Policies for our terms and conditions of membership on our website.

Parents are reminded that if children are absent either for sickness or holiday, payment for days missed will still need to be paid. If your child is poorly and unable to attend please email the appropriate email address.

Payments are made through a Standing Order payable on 28th of each month for 11 months (not July 28th).

Please read our policy and terms and conditions before applying for annual membership. The policies can be found on the school website.

PAYMENTS FOR NURSERY 30, BREAKFAST CARE PROVISION AND  
AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

CAN WE REMIND PARENTS TO SET UP THEIR STANDING ORDER PAYMENTS  
FOR THE 28TH OF EACH MONTH. THIS WILL ENSURE YOU DO NOT ACCRUE A  
£5 LATE CHARGE.

THANK YOU TO THOSE PARENTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY SET UP A  
STANDING ORDER.

The school office staff are available from 8.15am-4.15pm (Monday-Thursday) and 8.15am-4.00pm (Fridays). 0121 526 2669.

Any queries please call or email [school.office@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:school.office@oldparkprimary.com) or call 0121 526 2669. You can also message via Arbor.

If you telephone the school *before* 8.15am and after 4.15pm, you will hear the following message and options:-

Please leave a message or call back during our open hours or alternatively email [school.office@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:school.office@oldparkprimary.com)

Press 1 to report your child's absence (voicemail)

Press 2 to speak to the school office

### School Places

We have a small number of places available in school, if your child has a sibling or you have relatives interested in attending our school please email:

[school.office@oldparkprimary.com](mailto:school.office@oldparkprimary.com)

### Communication & Provision

As you are aware our main form of communication is email. Although we are aware that many parents prefer text message communications this is a costly provision. Therefore email communications will continue as the school works to try to cut costs to avoid staffing cuts. Unfortunately, the school is in the position where funding limitations means that we have to make difficult decisions regarding expenditure in all areas. The senior leadership team and the governing body look to prioritise spend to ensure safety and learning. However, this means that we are not able to always provide provision to the children in the ways we have in previous years.

We thank you for your continued support.

### School Fund Contributions

School fund is extremely important to help us provide wider experiences for our children at Old Park. All funds raised subsidise many opportunities, including: resources for our Exploration Days, where children explore a range of activities that are not provided through the normal curriculum; playground equipment to be used at lunchtimes; equipment for Forest School sessions, that our children are lucky enough to immerse themselves in; equipment for our careers and Skills Builder projects which develop the children's ambition and essential skills; whole-school theatre company visits and soon it will provide hot chocolate and a snack for all children in the forest during our reading celebration week. More info will follow regarding this. We would like to thank you for your support with this, as without it, we could not offer the wonderful 'extras' we do.