



Heygarth Primary School

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"Learning and Achieving Together for Life"

7th September 2022

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to a new academic year at Heygarth Primary School! It has been wonderful to welcome all of our children back to school this week - they have all settled back into school life so well and are eager to learn. We certainly have lots of wonderful new learning experiences and opportunities planned for them this term.

Also, a special welcome to all of our new families and children who we welcome into F1 (Nursery) and F2 (Reception) as well as across the school - we hope you and your children settle well into our Heygarth family.

School Start & Finish Times

In line with expectations set out in The Schools White Paper that schools will offer a minimum school week of 32.5 hours by September 2023, we have slightly adjusted our school hours from September 2022 to ensure that all children are in school for 32.5 hours each week (excluding Nursery).

F1 (Nursery): 8:45 - 11:45am and 12:30 - 3:30pm

F2 (Reception): 8:50 - 3:20pm

Year 1: 8:55 - 3:25pm

Gate C will open at 8:40am and close at 8:55am.

Year 2: 8:50 - 3:20pm

Year 3: 8:55 - 3:25pm

Year 4: 9:00 - 3:30pm

Gate B will open 8:45am and close at 9:00am.

Year 5: 9:00 - 3:30pm

Year 6: 9:00 - 3:30pm

Gate A will open at 8:50am and close at 9:00am.

Please stick to your child's start and finish times - they should not be arriving at school too early in the morning and **MUST** be collected on time after the school day finishes.

There will be 'teething problems' initially at pick up times, but if we can please request you arrive at your allocated time then there will be as few parents as possible at our gates.

Appointments with teachers

Teachers are very busy in the morning preparing for the day ahead and welcoming children into school so after school is always better time to speak to your child's class teacher if you need to. Mr Lewis, Miss Blake and I are at the gates each morning if you need to chat or want to pass on a message. You can also email the school office, who will pass it on.

PE Kits

You should have already received the timetable of when your child has PE and your child should come to school in their PE Kits on these days. It is absolutely fine for your child to wear their usual school jumper or cardigan if they do not yet have a PE hoodie or you do not wish to purchase one. However, children should not be wearing other sports kits with other logos on.

Year 6 Information

The **11+ Examination for Grammar School** takes place on Monday 19th September this year for those children in Year 6 who have already applied to take the exam. Further details about your child's assessment date and assessment centre will be sent to you directly.

Free School Meals/Universal Free School Meals

Even though all children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are entitled to a free meal at lunchtime each day, we still need any parents who claim benefits to register for Free School Meals as this ensures that school continues to receive enhanced funding for their children and also ensures that they receive their free milk entitlement. Key Stage 2 children also need to be registered for Free School Meals if they qualify for the same reason, i.e. milk and school funding.

SIMS InTouch

We are continuing to strive to improve communication with parents and carers and have received lots of positive comments about our electronic communication system that ensures that parents and carers receive letters and school information on a regular basis direct to their mobile phone or computer inbox.

If you have still not got an account set up with SimsParent, please contact the school office. Either ring or email schooloffice@heygarth.wirral.sch.uk with the email address that you would like to register with. More details here: <https://www.heygarth.wirral.sch.uk/communications>

Dinner Monies

Just a reminder that monies for school meals **MUST** now be paid online using our online payment system ParentPay as we are no longer accepting any cash into the school office. Please ensure that your account is topped up regularly.

Parking

We are only three days into the new term and we've unfortunately already had complaints from neighbours regarding parents parking blocking driveways and even blocking the road so the buses can't get past!

With our staggered start and finish times please, please, please give yourself a little extra time for travelling to school to drop off or pick up your child so you can park a little further away from school and walk.

Please be respectful of our neighbours by not blocking their driveways or parking on their grass verges.

Attendance

This year we will continue to follow guidelines issued by the ESW for attendance.

Penalty Notices may be considered appropriate in the following circumstances:

- Attendance below 90% with at least 10 days lost due to unauthorised absence. These do not need to be consecutive.
- 5 days or more unauthorised absence due to holidays in term time, taking into consideration your child's attendance.
- A pupil arrives late after the registers are closed (using a code U) on 10 or more separate occasions.
- In line with other local primary schools and South Wirral High School, we will not authorise any holidays this term.

Staffing Update

I promised in the summer term that I would update you regarding support staff as soon as I knew where people would be working. We spent time over the summer recruiting some new Teaching Assistants to strengthen our team. Deployment of TAs will be as follows:

F1 (Nursery): Mrs A Windras, Mrs M Carvell, Miss K Griffiths, Miss R Ivory

F2 (Reception): Mrs E Nilsen, Mrs K Boyd

Year 1: Miss S Begum

Year 2: Miss Z Fenney, Mrs J Foord, Mrs L Houldin-Coyle, Mrs L Mountford

Year 3: Mrs K Cullen, Mrs L Roberts

Year 4: Mr P Johnson, Mrs J Norris

Year 5: Mrs K Burns, Mrs K Case, Mrs S Reid

Year 6: Mrs J Collins, Mr M Ellis, Mrs L James, Miss K Stuart

Mrs C Garland left us at the end of term. She didn't tell anyone, including me, about this decision until the very last day. We wish her the very best for the future.

Mrs J White works with children throughout school following Speech and Language interventions from our Speech and Language Therapist.

Mrs D Rogers is our Full Time ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant).

Many of you may have noticed already that congratulations are in order to Mrs Hastings, who is expecting her second baby. She is hoping to continue teaching Year 1 as long as she is able. Her baby is due in January.

Parent Governor Elections

The term of office for our Parent Governor, Ms J Pires, who is also our Chair of Governors is ending on 24th September 2022. Ms Pires is intending to stand again for election, but we have a duty to inform all parents that there is a vacancy for a Parent Governor and there will be an election to fill it. Any parent has the right to stand for election. More information will be sent out separately.

Congratulations

Over the summer we have heard that we have been successful in being awarded the **ModeShift Bronze Award** in recognition of the hard work everyone put in to walking to school and improving the environment around our school. Thank you to Mrs A Jaggard for all of her hard work in achieving this award.

We are also thrilled to learn that we have been awarded the **Eco Flag** (for the third time). Thank you to Mrs S Cook and Miss K Evans (who have both now left the school), for their hard work with our Eco Team last year, and to everyone who has been part of our Eco Team, in achieving this award.

Dates for your diary

24.10.2022-28.10.2022: Half term

Monday 31.10.2022: School re-opens

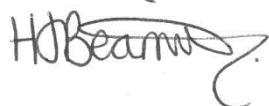
Monday 14.11.2022: 'Odd Socks Day' to start Anti-Bullying Week

Wednesday 16.11.2022: School Photographs - Individual & siblings

Friday 18.11.2022: 'Children in Need' Day

Wednesday 23.11.2022: Flu Immunisations for F2 - Year 6

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Beamish', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs H. Beamish
Headteacher