



QUEENSMEAD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Purple Post

Friday 04/09/ 2020

Issue 206

Principal's Message

We want our school to be a place where we are safe: to learn, have fun and work hard. A place where we are kind and mindful of everyone and have positive attitudes for our bright futures.

A very warm welcome back to Queensmead after our long summer holiday/ lockdown! It has been such a tonic to see our Queensmead family back together again after so long! It has been the most strange start to the term with lots of new routines and procedures that, whilst may seem strange are quickly becoming normal.

Please read this newsletter carefully for additional updates and explanations.

I am so proud of the way that pupils and families have adapted.

There is always lots to include in the first newsletter of the term so here goes!

Liz Latham

As a school we are following Government guidelines to stay safe. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

New Staff Members!

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Jeyes-Horton as part of our office team. She will be part of the front office admin team. In addition we would like to welcome Dottie – our Queensmead puppy who is being trained as a therapy dog. I will be sending out more information about her, along with permission slips next week.



Goodbye and happy retirement to Mrs Tester who has left our finance team after many years – wishing you well from all of us.

Contacting the School Office

Even though there are some changes to routines, if you have any queries or need to arrange for your child to attend a medical appointment, please contact the office on the usual number 0116 2858518. Please also ring to let us know if your child is ill. Should your child fall ill at school we will contact you as usual- please ensure we have your updated contact details.

Attendance so far!

On Tuesday across the city attendance was at 92% with 30,000 pupils attending school. I am delighted to say that we hit 96% and are hoping to keep it that way!

Well done everyone.

Safety during drop-off and pick-up

Priority entrance will be given to families queueing towards the leisure centre. Please do not queue the other way down Hamelin Rd as the entrance queue will block the exit gate – this is not safe in terms of social distancing.

Thanks you so much for your patience and understanding with this.

Parking – do not park along the pavement where families are queueing. There were at least 2 near misses when inconsiderate parents in cars mounted the pavement to park, narrowly missing children queueing to get into school. We will notify police of number plates if this continues.

PE days

Following the Operations Procedure and Risk Assessments, pupils are not able to get changed for PE in class. So that they can take part in PE, we request that you send your child to school wearing their PE kit (including tracksuit/jogging bottoms if it's cold and appropriate footwear) Please see the days below:

Monday – Year 4

Tuesday- Year 1

Wednesday – Year 3

Thursday – Year 5 and 2

Friday – Year 6

No spare kit is available so it is essential that you ensure your child wears their kit on the right day.

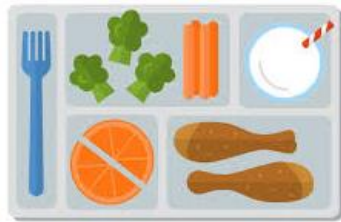
Cashless System – ParentPay

We are now a cashless school and unable to accept cash payments for anything. Your child will have brought a letter home on Tuesday with a user name and password to enable you to set up your Parent Pay account. Please ensure you've signed up today.



School Meals:

Hot school meal provision will begin next week with a reduced menu which you can view on the academy website by [clicking here](#) – this will be subject to availability. School meals must be paid for in advance through ParentPay and your child will select from the options available when they go for their lunch.



We are a nut-free environment as we do have children onsite who have a life-threatening allergy- please do not send your child to school with products containing nuts – this includes chocolate spread which contains nuts in sandwiches.

Water Bottles

Thank you for sending your children with named, full water bottles – a reminder that they should only contain water and not juice. It is essential that pupils have water available so please do continue to send these every day.



Library Book Amnesty

When we locked down in March we issued all pupils with a reading book from our library. Sadly, only a few of these books have been returned – this may well be because we are asking you not to bring in book bags for the time being. However, we do still need the books back so that we can quarantine them ready to be issued out again. At the moment our library is nearly empty! If your child brings a library book (or 2!) back, they will receive 5 house points as a thank you. Over the weekend, please do have a look and see how many you can find!

This also includes any EYFS Story Sacks as we are waiting to be able to use them again in school. Many thanks

Fruit Scheme

At the moment we are unable to provide the playtime fruit scheme so please do send in a piece of fruit with your child to enjoy at breaktime.



Wet Weather

As we are currently following the Operations Procedure for drop-off and collection, despite our best attempts to be as speedy as possible, there may be occasions when it will rain.

As we are unable to change the arrangements, please ensure your child has a coat.



If you know of a family who do not receive newsletters it may be because we don't have their correct email address – please encourage them to get in touch to update us with this vital information. Many thanks.