

# BORDESLEY VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cromwell Learning Community Multi Academy Trust

## Senior Executive Leader:

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4<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Autumn Term Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carers,

We extend a warm welcome to all our families as we return to school after the long summer break. We anticipate that you have enjoyed the opportunity to spend time together, but also hope the children are looking forward to returning to school to meet up with friends and re-engage with their learning.

### Uniform & P.E Kits

The children all looked very smart in their **uniforms** when they arrived on Wednesday – thank you - and the behaviour throughout the day was excellent. It is important **P.E kits** are also returned for the children's lessons this week and that they are returned in the P.E bags already provided for all our children. Should you need to replace a P.E bag, they can be purchased from Clive Mark.

### Staffing

As we start this academic year, we are pleased to welcome **staff** who are new to the school. Miss Griffiths will be teaching children in Yr.2 while Ms Minhas has been recruited for our Yr.3/4 class. Ms Mullings returned to the school at the end of the last academic year and, will this year, take responsibility for the Yr.3 class. Ms Khan will similarly be back this half term to teach the Yr.4 class.

### Expectations Meetings

**Meetings** have been timetabled for each year group from **w/b 10<sup>th</sup> September**. Please look out for further details that will be sent via Teachers2Parents text messages. Parents will not only have the opportunity to meet the staff, but topics, texts etc. will be outlined, as well as the levels of attainment expected across each of the age groups. Information will also be shared regarding statutory assessments: Phonics Screening Check (Yr.1), the KS1 SATs (Yr.2), the Multiplication Tables Check (Yr.4) and KS2 SATs (Yr.6). To secure positive outcomes for your child it is important you are a part of their learning journey and ensure your attendance at the expectations meeting. They will start promptly at 9.15am and as a school we will record parents' attendance. Please be punctual as latecomers will miss vital information and we're sure you'll agree that a secure understanding of the year group's expected outcomes will benefit all concerned.

### Attendance and the new National Framework for Penalty Notices for School Absences

**All families were alerted to the National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absences via our July newsletter and its attachments. These changes are effective from September 2024 and do not allow schools to authorise any holidays in term time or authorise leave retrospectively. As such any parent deciding on this course of action, should understand they may receive a penalty notice at the level prescribed by the new framework.**

It is disconcerting that despite closing the school on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to enable families to travel abroad and return in good time for the new academic year, a significant number took time during the second half of the summer term, while other families travel arrangements have resulted in them not returning promptly for the start of this academic year. To avoid applications for term time leave we are again publishing dates for the whole of the academic year 2024 – 2025. Please ensure you adhere to these holiday dates and organise any travel arrangements accordingly. **As such we except no requests for term time leave within this academic year.**

The school's Attendance Policy, in line with the new National Framework, will be available on the school website outlining the responsibilities of parents, alongside all other stakeholders, and parents should take time to read the policy and understand its objectives.

To improve on attendance as a whole, we will be contacting parents whose children were **persistently absent** last year, (those with an annual attendance figure of less than 90%) to discuss actions that must be taken to ensure there is an improvement this year. Meetings will take place with both myself and Mrs Fisher. Parents should be aware that the school and its leadership team



<https://bvcs.eschools.co.uk>

are held accountable for attendance and for ongoing concerns we will have no alternative but to initiate fines in line with the new framework.

Where there have been continuing reports of sickness in relation to an individual child parents should refer to the poster attached (which is also available on the website). It has been created by the UK Health Security Agency in conjunction with the NHS and provides advice in relation to a range of childhood diseases and 'expected' periods of absence.

### **Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education**

During the Autumn Term the whole school will engage in team building activities. While these activities will be on site for our younger children, Yrs. 3 – 6 will visit **Free@Last in Nechells** within small groups (to ensure a quality experience) and spend time on the centre's **climbing wall**. For the visit they will travel to the venue via the school minibus during an afternoon session. Arrangements have been made that sessions for the **Yr. 5/6 class will take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September** and the **Yr.6 class** will have their opportunity on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September**. On this day they will have an early lunch and can arrive in school in joggers/leggings, trainers/pumps etc. in preparation for the climbing wall.

As the term progresses, the children will also be involved in both Black History Month (October) and Anti-Bullying Week (November). In December we have organised Chaplin's Pantomime to present 'Jack and the Beanstalk' for Early Years and KS1 children, while those in Yrs. 3 – 6 will have visit The Crescent Theatre to watch a production of 'The Beauty and the Beast'.

Over the term there will also be coffee mornings for parents. Aperture Photography will be in school for individual photographs while the School Nursing Team has been timetabled to deliver the Flu Immunisation Programme for all children from Reception, through to Yr. 6.

### **Yr.3 – School lunches and Preferred Options**

Please remember that **Yr.2 pupils who have transferred to Yr.3 are no longer entitled to a universal free school meal**. Parents will need to identify whether they wish to purchase a hot meal (Monday – Thursday), at a cost of £2.45 a day, or alternatively provide a healthy packed lunch for your child. You can always check whether your child is entitled to a free school meal by logging on to: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham> however meals taken, with no eligibility, will be charged from today, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

In terms of school lunches, all parents must commit to the preferred meal option on a half termly basis (which will be the minimum time period) and notify Admin. staff verbally, or in writing, of any changes for the next half term.

### **Yr.6 & Rec. – Application for Secondary / Primary School**

The **application period for secondary school places in Birmingham for September 2025 is from September 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, at 11:59 PM**. Applications received after this date will be considered late and processed after March 3, 2025 (when all applicants will be notified of their 'offer'). Please be mindful that late applicants may have a lower chance of being offered a place at their preferred schools. All applications are online, and details can be found on Birmingham City Council's website - [www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/school-admissions). A 'Parents' guidance to submit online application, change of preferences and password resets' offers detailed instructions as to the process. Should you need any help however, please see a member of the Admin. Team.

Please note that the application process for **Reception places for 2025 – 2026** will also open on **1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 with a closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025** and you should ensure your application is on time, particularly as our admission numbers this year will be reduced to 30 places.

#### **Dates for the academic year 2024 – 2025**

##### **Autumn Term 2024**

**Term starts: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Half term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024**

**Term Ends: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

##### **Spring Term 2025**

**Term starts: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Half term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025**

**Term ends: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

##### **Summer Term 2025**

**Term starts: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**Half Term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Term ends: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

We look forward to working with all our families again this year to ensure the very best outcomes for all.

Yours sincerely,

*Rubina Darr*

R.Darr (Mrs)

Snr. Executive Leader