

Whole School Information

Message from the Headteacher:

Happy Diwali to our families who have been celebrating this week.

Illness in school

Please be aware that we have had a confirmed case of Chicken Pox in School. If your child develops chicken pox they are free to return once the blisters have scabbed over.

Pupil Voice

We have recently sent out a Pupil Voice survey around outside time and safety. Please see below some feedback received.

Really nice to see that the most enjoyed thing about being outside was spending time with their friends. Outside time students have said that they would like more equipment to use and Peter has had some sports equipment delivered. Bikes are a favourite of students from across the survey results, so please make sure they are put back and the shed kept tidy so they can be enjoyed by all. As it is starting to get colder some students have stated they would prefer time inside over lunch rather than outside, so consider staffing to support this if this is the case in your class. In terms of safety at school it is really positive that no students said they do not feel safe in school. Out of a list of seven areas around school the most popular response was 'all of the above', again a great strength for the school that the students feel so safe.

Forest Schools:

Can I say a big thank you to the parents/carers who have so kindly donated items to the wind chime project. If anybody else has anything else that they could donate to me, such as old keys, copper piping, things that will jangle, battered pots and pans, we would be very grateful,



Online Safety Update

Parents Guide to WhatsApp

As one of the most popular messaging apps used by all age ranges and around 2.7 billion monthly users, WhatsApp has been adding new features over the last year or so which some parents may not be aware of so it might be worth sending a reminder out to them. Internet Matters have put together a really good 'how-to' guide for parents which you can access [HERE](#).

Parents - Guide to Snapchat MyAI

This is a better explanation to the artificial intelligence chatbot used within Snapchat. Chatbots are springing up everywhere now, including within apps that children and young people use, and there have been some concerns over the ethics, the information and

guidance that is being given by the chatbot and more, particularly in relation to guidance that is age appropriate, privacy concerns and misinformation.

Wayne Denver has put together a really useful updated article for parents explaining what the chatbot is, how it works, the issues and some tips for parents. You can find the article [HERE](#).

Video please watch: [attendance.mp4](#)



Your child should attend school every day. Sometimes your child may be too ill to come to school. Click [here](#) for a link to the NHS website which has useful information.



The school times are from 8.55 – 9.10 drop off and 2.20 – 2.40 collection. If your child is not attending school, you must ring 0115 9733710 opt 2 between 8am and 9am every day to let us know why or in exceptional circumstances only, email

attendance@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk along with any medical evidence as other inboxes are not always manned. If we are unable to make contact home visits will be carried out by a member of the family support team. Thank you for your support.

Holidays in Term time:

As a parent, it is your legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school every day. It is only acceptable for your child to miss school if:

- they are too ill to attend
- you have got advance permission from the school

If you are thinking about taking a holiday in term-time, then you must put this request in writing to the Headteacher (Mrs Turner). All holidays will be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your holiday is unauthorised and you choose to not send your child to school, you may be fined. Fines start at £60 per parent and if not paid can result in a fine of up to £2500, a community order or a jail sentence up to 3 months. The court will also give you a Parenting Order.

Please use the link provided to inform us of a holiday request. This link is not to be used to report general absence from school: <https://forms.office.com/e/ECEey9uNSZ> We appreciate your understanding and support with this.



Fundraising: Colours Fashion Show Thursday 30th November 2023 7pm at Long Eaton Rugby Club

We have our first fundraising event planned, this is a great opportunity to have a fun evening out and also maybe start some Christmas shopping or treat yourself!

There will be a fashion show on the night showcasing clothes which are ex high street brands at affordable prices and accessories. There will also be a raffle and some refreshments.

Tickets are £6 each or 2 for £10 To purchase tickets please complete this form [here](#)

We have now set up a school 'GoFundMe' [here](#)

New communication workshops for parents

Due to the success of our parent workshops last year, we are bringing them back and have also added some new ones! Use this link [here](#) to book

Date/ Time	Session
21 st November 10-12- School	Speech sounds
30 th November 10-12- School 5-6pm- Online	Intensive interaction
7 th December 10-12- School	Makaton
14 December 10-12- School 5-6pm- Online	Pointing boards and communication books

19 th December 10-12- School	Social Communication
11 th January 10-12- School 5-6pm- Online	Electronic AAC Apps
16 th January 10-12- School	Blank level questions and information carrying words



PE Kits

A reminder please that pupils must have PE kits in school. This is so that class teams can support with developing independence when getting dressed and undressed. Please ensure all items are named and stored in a named bag, which will be kept in school. If you have any further queries, please contact your class teams.



Wow Moments

We love to hear about amazing things our pupils are doing at home! Please send in pictures or let us know what great things they are doing, and we can upload these to each pupils BOOP profile.

You can also download templates to put your WOW moments on from our school website. Please send them to parents@brackenfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

School Uniform



Over COVID 19 Simply First have changed the way they operate their shop. Parent/carers are now being directed to the website:

www.schooluniformnottingham.co.uk to place orders. You will then be sent an invoice for payment, and once payment has been received the order will be processed and you will receive a notification when your order is ready to

collect. Payments are made via bank transfer using their order name and invoice number (important) as payment reference.

Container Self-Storage - Simply First Ltd

The Embroidery Pod, Unit 13, Block B, Ind Estate, Mark St, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5AD.

Our School Day

Please be reminded of the school times.

Student Arrival and Registration	8.55 – 9.05 – Taxi drop off 9.00 – 9.10 – Parent drop off
Morning Session	09.10 – 11.40
Lunch Session (30 minutes within this time)	11.40 – 13.10
Afternoon Session	13.10 – 14.20
Pupil Departure and Pastoral Time	14.20 – 14.35 – Taxi collection 14.30 – 14.40 – Parent collection

Attachments

Sign of the week:

Our sign of the week this week is 'Apple' Please click this link to watch a video of the sign: [Apple \(makaton.org\)](http://makaton.org)

Upcoming dates from the school calendar

School Holidays:

We break up on **Friday 22nd December 2023 at 12pm** until **Friday 5th January 2024**. School reopens to pupils on **Monday 8th January 2024**.

[Please click here](#) for a copy of the **2023-2024** school holidays.

Please use the following link to view the updated menu: [Autumn & Winter Menu 2023 2024](#)

**PARENT / CARERS
OF
SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AND ADULTS
WALKING GROUP
STARTING JANUARY 2024
IN THE DERBYSHIRE AREA
EASY RELAXED WALKS ,DOG FRIENDLY**

CAKE ALWAYS INVOLVED TOO !



**PLEASE CONTACT
ANDREA 07733060448
FOR ROUTE AND
ANY OTHER
INFORMATION**



SENDISCO

NOVEMBER 17TH



blackwell community center
DE55 5HH

**parent /carer
to supervise**

**£5 a child
siblings £3**

Session 1
5-6.30pm

**Play based sensory
activities
low music
age range 4-11 yrs**

Session 2

6.45-8.15pm

**Disco based activities
louder music
low lights
age range 11-19yrs**



Call /Text
Andrea
to book or info
07733060448



**AEROBIC FUN FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL
NEEDS**

**EVERY FRIDAY 11AM-12PM @INFINTITE
WELLBEING CENTRE**

HEANOR



**£5 A CLIENT
PARENT/CARERS**

**PLEASE CONTACT
ANDREA 07733060448**