

NEWSLETTER FOR SIDMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to the start of this new school year! I do hope that everyone enjoyed the summer break, spending time with family and friends, and that you are now all rested and ready for this new academic year.

A special welcome to all of our new families who have joined us since the start of the new term. We hope that you soon feel part of our Sidmouth family.

The start of this term has been really busy in school as staff have settled the children into new routines and re-established old ones! Please check the diary dates at the end of the newsletter for all upcoming events.

As I have visited the classrooms I have noticed that the children looked so smart in their school uniforms and I would like to say a big thank you to you all for making this happen. Let's try and keep this up. Just a reminder that we do not require the children to wear any branded uniform but our uniform policy also extends to PE kit. PE kit should be a plain white t-shirt, navy blue shorts, trainers and or plain black tracksuit bottoms/leggings, no football kits please these are not part of the PE uniforms. Also for health and safety reasons only stud earrings are permitted to be worn at school; and earrings must be removed before school on PE days. If anyone is finding it difficult to source uniform please ask to speak to Mrs Newton our family links worker and she may be able to help.



Reminder about the increase in School Meal Charges

We are just reminding parents and carers that the cost of school meals has increased this year to £1.50.

Free School Meals

We are very keen to make sure that every child and family that is eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium funding is registered correctly. This funding is vital to be able to offer support to the individual children and across the school. You can check if you are eligible by completing the online form via the Hull City Council website:

<https://www.hull.gov.uk/education-and-schools/schools/free-school-meals>

We know that applying online can sometimes be difficult, so we have staff on hand at school to be able to assist if you would prefer. All conversations remain private and confidential, all we need to complete the application for you is:

- Parent and Child Full Name and Date of Birth
- Contact Details
- National Insurance Number or National Asylum Seekers Number

If you would like to take advantage of our team making the application for you, please let us know. Everyone can apply, even if your child is currently in receipt of the Universal Free Meals offered to EYFS and KS1 children - as pupil premium funding provides much more than just free meals at lunchtime.

If you are eligible to FSM, you would also be entitled to receive a voucher to be used at a Supermarket (choice of four) during school holidays, provided Hull City Council is continuing this funding.

Staffing news

We are delighted to welcome the following new staff members to Sidmouth Primary:

- Mrs. S. Akindayomi: F1 Team Member
- Miss L. Binks: KS2 Teaching Assistant
- Mrs. M. Kolawole: KS1 Teaching Assistant

We would also like to congratulate Miss Hyde on her appointment as our new Assistant Headteacher. Miss Hyde will continue in her role as SENCO and join myself and the current Assistant Headteacher, Mrs. Hawksley, as part of our new Senior Leadership Team.

Finally, we extend our warmest congratulations to Mrs. Sarel (formerly Miss Fletcher) on

her recent marriage.

School start and finish times

Nursery Children

- Morning Session: 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
- Afternoon Session: 12:15 PM - 3:15 PM

F2 to Year 6

- School Start: 8:55 AM (Children can enter classrooms at 8:45 AM)
- School Finish: 3:15 PM (Gates open at 3:10 PM)

Additional Information

- Breakfast Club: Starts at 7:45 AM (Booking required)
- After-School Club: Not available (Parents are asked to collect children on time)
- Pick-Up Procedures: Please inform the school in advance if someone unfamiliar to staff will be collecting your child.

Note: Please try to ensure that children arrive at school on time, as late arrivals may disrupt the learning environment.

Mobile Phones

A reminder for you that as part of our Safeguarding responsibilities and in line with our school behaviour policy, the following procedures regarding mobile phones are in place:

- As a general rule, children should not bring mobile phones into school. However, if your child is in Year 5 and 6 and is walking to and from school alone we do allow them to bring in phones as long as we have received written parental permission.
- Mobile phones must be switched off when pupils are on the school grounds.
- Mobile phones must be handed into the class teacher at the start of the school day.
- Mobile phones must not be switched back on until your child leaves the school premises

Bicycles on the Playground



We would like to remind everyone that bicycles or scooters should not be ridden on the playground. Our school is very busy, especially at drop off and pick up times and so it is not



safe for children or adults to be riding bikes/scooters on the school grounds. Thank you for your continued support.



At Sidmouth Primary we continue to work hard to raise attendance and to reduce instances of lateness. We are sure that like us, you as parents and carers realise the importance of attendance and punctuality.

There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential.

Children who do not attend school regularly are more likely to:

- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Find the work difficult
- Learn poor attendance habits that follow through into secondary school and future employment



How can you help your child attend school regularly?

- Make sure your child understands why school is important
- Get everything ready for school the night before
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays
- Take holidays during school holidays and not during term time
- If your child is slightly under the weather, still send them into school - children often start feeling better as the day goes on
- Children can attend school if they are taking medicines - speak to the school office

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO ATTENDANCE LEGISLATION

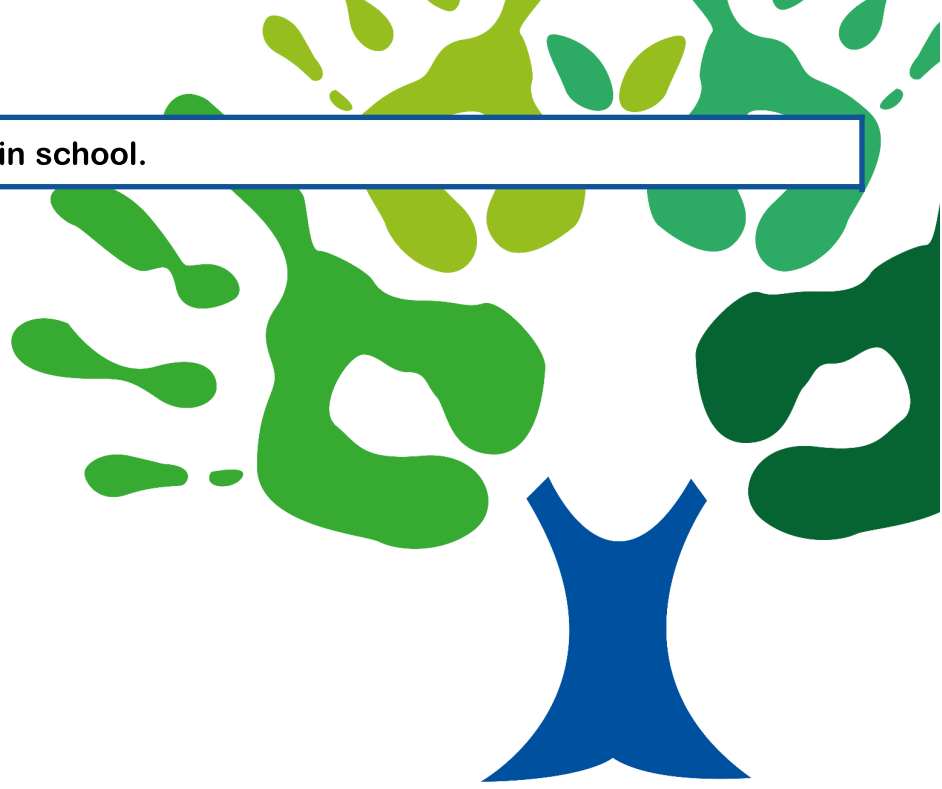
We also want to remind all parents of the new attendance legislation from the Department for Education (DFE) that came into effect from August 2024 regarding term time holidays and unauthorised absences in school.

The fine for term-time holidays will be issued per parent, per child of £80 (if paid within 21 days) or £160 (if paid within 28 days) If a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160. If a parent receives two fines in a 3 year period, prosecution will be considered, resulting in a fine of up to £2,500. If your child's attendance is below 90% and they are absent from school for five days or more then prosecution will be as above.

If any of our parents/ carers feel that they need support with their child's school attendance then please speak with Mrs Hawksley, Mrs Northage or Mrs Newton and they will support you.

Please remember to call the school attendance mobile on 07971382616 to report your

child absent every day they are not in school.



Applying for Secondary School

Parents of all current Year 6 pupils must apply for a secondary school place between the 1st September 2024 and 31st October 2024. If you live in Hull you must apply to Hull City Council telling them all your preferences of secondary schools for your child, even if the school you want is not in Hull.

The easiest way to make your application is by registering for the My School Portal on the Hull City Council website and applying online. Alternatively, you can request an application form by contacting 01482 300300 or download the application form from the Hull City Council Website. Applications can be submitted and/or amended up to midnight on the 31st October 2024.

It is really important that you choose three schools you would like your child to go to as they may not be allocated their first choice place and if you have not made a second or third preference school your child may be placed in a school you would not have chosen.

If you need any help applying for secondary school places do not hesitate to contact the school office and our Family Links Worker, Mrs Newton, will be happy to help you.

If your child has an Education, Health and Care Plan, there is a separate admissions process, find more details on the [Local Offer Website](#) or ask to speak with our SENCO; Miss Hyde.

Upcoming Diary Dates

Wed 11th September	Year 2 trip - Hull Fish Trail
Fri 20th September	HANA Parents Workshop (info to follow)
Wed 2nd October	Y6 inter schools sport tournament vs Stepney
Wed 10th October	Y3 Hull and East Riding Museum visit
Wed 16th October	Parents evening (more info to follow)
Thur 17th October	Parents evening (more info to follow)
Tues 22nd October	Year 2 trip - Hull Fish Trail
Thur 24th October	Foundation Stage Stay and Play
Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov	Half term break - school closed
Fri 20th December	Last day of Autumn Term - school closes at 2pm
Mon 23rd Dec to Fri 3rd Jan	Christmas Holidays - school closed
Mon 6th January	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Mon 17th to Fri 21st February	Half term break - school closed
Mon 10th March	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Fri 4th April	Last day of Spring Term - school closes at 2pm
Mon 7th to Fri 18th April	Easter Holidays - school closed
Mon 21st April	Bank Holiday - school closed
Tue 22nd April	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Mon 5th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Mon 26th to Fri 30th May	Half term break - school closed
Fri 18th July	Last Day of the Summer Term - school closes at 2pm

