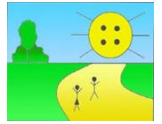


# BUTTON LANE NEWS



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

It has been wonderful to welcome all the children and families back to school after such a long and challenging time. We are so pleased with how well the children have settled back into school life and adapted to all the changes, they have grown so much and they all look so smart in their school uniforms. We have enjoyed catching up with them and finding out what they got up to during lockdown and the summer holidays!

If your child is upset about coming into school, or if you are experiencing any difficulties with dropping off and collecting, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are eager to make the start of the new school year a positive one for all the children. Staff have been engaging the children in a range of activities to help the children to re-engage and settle back into the routines of school.

## One Way System

Thank you for your co-operation with the one way system that we have had to implement around the school grounds. Just a quick reminder that you do not have to leave the school grounds via the gate you entered through, as long as you continue to follow the one way system you can exit the school grounds through any gate. It is important that we do not have parents/carers congregating at the school gates and that we limit the number of interactions across bubbles. Can you also please ensure that only 1 parent/adult drop off and collect to help minimise the number of adults on site.



## Year Group Newsletter

The Autumn year group newsletters will be available on the school website and Parent App from next week onwards. On the website they can be found under the "home learning zone & year group pages" section. We hope you find them useful.



## Staggered Start and Finish Times

We really appreciate your support with the staggered start and finish times. Please ensure you do not arrive too early to drop off and pick up to avoid congestion at key points around school.

Year Group	Start Time	Finish Time
Reception	8.30am	2.40pm
Year 1	8.40am	2.50pm
Year 2	8.50am	3.00pm
Year 3	8.30am	2.40pm
Year 4	8.40am	2.50pm
Year 5	8.50am	3.00pm
Year 6	8.30am	2.40pm

We totally understand that this may cause disruption for some families, but we must prioritise the safety of all our community. As we are approaching a time where there will be lots of coughs and colds and winter bugs flying around, it will make it more difficult to make a judgement about whether a child has symptoms of Covid-19 or not. Please bear with us as we will have to be over cautious at this time.

Please note that if your child needs to self-isolate due to local lockdown or cases of Covid-19 in their bubble, we will provide home learning activities for the period that they are not in school.

## Reporting Absence

Due to the current situation it is very important that you inform us if your child is going to be absent from school.

Please inform the school on the first day of absence. Please also provide plenty of detail regarding their illness, this will ensure we follow the correct procedure. You can report absence via the school app, text message (07599954928) or telephone the school office (0161 945 1965).



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### Dates for your diaries



Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September – School photographs



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Nasal flu immunisation

### Breakfast and After School

There are still vacancies in breakfast and after school club, if you want your child to attend please fill in the consent forms which are available on Parent App. Our breakfast club runs from 7.40am and is £1.50 or 75p if you arrive from 8.00am. After school club is £8.00 per session.



### The Great Button Lane Sunflower Growing Competition

The sunflower competition ended on the 31<sup>st</sup> August and it's now time to measure up. Please upload photos of your sunflower on twitter with the hashtag #buttonlanegrowhappy. Can all photos be submitted by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September please, we will be judging the "tallest sunflower" and the "most imaginative pot". The winners will be announced on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Good luck.



### Need Support?...some useful numbers

Women's Domestic Violence - 0161 636 7525

Men's Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 80100327

NSPCC 24 hour free phone service - 0800 800 500

Childline - 0800 1111

**Police (if not urgent) 101 Women's aid 0161 660 7999**

### PE

PE will be starting next week for all children. On the day your child has PE they can come into school in their PE kit; plain white t-shirt, black shorts/jogging bottoms/leggings, trainers/pumps black sweatshirt/hoody

Year Group	PE Day
Reception	Tuesday
Year 1	Friday
Year 2	Wednesday
Year 3	Monday & Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday & Friday
Year 5	Monday & Thursday
Year 6	Tuesday

### ParentPay

We are now a cashless school, this means that all payments to school will need to be made via ParentPay. If you have not got a ParentPay account please contact the school office and they will send you your registration details. We will no longer be accepting cash at the school office. Thank you for your support.



### Parent App

We still have some parents/carers who have not yet signed up for the Parent App. If you have not already done so can you please sign up ASAP. The app is our main source of communicating with parents/carers about everything that is happening within school and it is very difficult to ensure information reaches everyone if they do not have access to the app. Thank you.



### Safeguarding Children

Every week we put on our newsletter the number for Social Services: 0161 234 5001. If you are ever concerned about any child please report it to Mrs Jones.

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## **Reminder School Attendance, including Persistent Absences and Holidays During Term Time**

The government has a persistence absence threshold of 10%. The absence threshold of 10% means that if a pupil is absent for 38 sessions (19 days) of school, they are classified as persistently absent. Schools are urged to inform parents of this threshold and to advise parents that fines will be made for persistent absence, unless there is evidence of a justifiable reason for such absence, for example, significant illness.

Failure to make payment will result in legal action for failure to ensure regular attendance at school under Section 444 (1) Education Act 1996.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Penalty Charges</b>
Paid within 21 days	Paid within 21 days
After 21 days and before 28 days	£120 per parent per child
After 28 days	The parent will receive a summons to appear before the Magistrate's Court on the grounds of having failed to secure their child/ children's regular attendance

As you are aware, we are not allowed to grant any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. An exceptional circumstance is usually a one-off, unique situation that is of significant emotional, educational or spiritual value which outweighs the loss of teaching time.

It is my duty to strongly urge parents or carers to avoid booking holidays, appointments or visits overseas during term-time. In addition, it is important that I advise you that under the legislation there is an expectation that schools will issue a Fixed Penalty Notice to those parents who take their children on an unauthorised leave of absence (holiday) in term time. Please note that current circumstances have made this more complex. We will still be considering each request for absence individually, and taking advice from the relevant authorities based on the most up to date government guidelines.