

Wednesday 5th September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome and welcome back!

I hope you have all had a fabulous summer especially given the gorgeous weather we have had. I can't begin to tell you how fabulous it is to see the children back in school today. They look so smart and are clearly ready for a new year and the amazing challenges and adventures it will bring. Even on day one they bring a smile to my face and make me so proud to be part of their learning journey.

Leadership at Sun:

As you are most likely aware, I start my new role this week as the executive Principal over Sun Academy and Star Academy. This is an exciting time for us all as we can share good practice with other schools and use this to go from strength to strength. I am sure that some of you may be a little nervous about the changes however please rest assured I am as committed as ever to our children. As with all our staff, they are my first priority.

Mr MacDonald is now the Head of School and provides parents with that familiar face that is in a leadership role. As part of his job, Mr MacDonald will oversee the day to day running of the school, ensuring routines, procedures and high-quality teaching and learning is in place and performed effectively. Any questions, queries or concerns you have can be addressed to and answered by Mr MacDonald as well as myself.

New Teacher:

We welcome Mr Adcock this term as the teacher in year 4. I hope you join with me in making him feel part of our school community.

Ofsted:

After a very long wait, we have now been informed that our Ofsted report will be available and published next Tuesday, 11th September. As soon as Tuesday arrives, I will e-mail the report out to all parents, place it on the website and APP.

Homework:

Home-school diaries and reading books will come home next Monday, 10th September. Learn its (number tests) will be in from Monday however Spellings will be given the week after as the children will be undertaking a diagnostic test next week. It is our aim to ensure homework is focused on addressing the key basic skills of reading, spelling and basic math knowledge so please ensure your children do a little of each, every night and write this in the diary. From September, when a child has completed their reading book they will be asked to undertake a book review before they move on to the next book; this will replace the test on the computer.

Uniform:

Today has been an accolade to you as parents for how smart and proud our children look in their uniform. What a fabulous start! It is said that the attitude to uniform is often reflected in the learning standards due to the sense of belonging and purpose it gives. For this reason, please ensure that your child is in the correct uniform at all times; Black shoes (if trainers are worn we will ask them to wear pumps for the day), a tie (Y1 to 6) and tucked in shirts.

If hair is below the collar, please tie it up (this does reduce the number of incidents we have with the dreaded lice!) and please do not send your children with large bows/headbands. Please wear simple red/black bobbles/headbands. Nail varnish should be removed, and false nails are NOT allowed at school.

After-school clubs:

After school clubs will start next week; a letter will come out to you informing you of the range that are available for the autumn term. The clubs will run for the whole of the autumn term. You will notice that there are clubs now that hold a fee. This fee is to cover the cost of resources, licenses, transport and staffing. We have kept the charges as low as possible however I am sure you will agree that for an hours club they are still fantastic value for money compared to clubs you may attend outside of school.

Swimming:

Year 6 will be swimming in the first half term and this starts next week on Thursday 13th September. Please ensure year 6 pupils have a costume, towel and for those who have long hair, a swimming cap. Goggles are discouraged and have been proven to often cause more harm than help. Goggles should only be worn if your child has eye problems and therefore we would require medical verification before we would allow your child to wear them.

Diary dates:

Diary dates for the autumn term have now been placed on the school app and website. In the first newsletter, we will also give details. Take a look and make a note of the dates so that you are fully informed of what is happening in school.

Finally, I value the relationship that the school and parents have built up over the years and am thankful to you all for the way in which we have worked as a team to make Sun a success. My door is always open to you. I encourage you to always come and talk to me. If I can I will see you straight away and if I'm not available let the school office know and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Here's to another magical year at Sun Academy Bradwell!

Mrs Bobbie Caisley