



Welcome back to a new school year at Oldbrook First School and a particular warm welcome to all of the new children and families who are joining us this term in Nursery and Reception. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer break and that your child is looking forward to the new term ahead. It was lovely to see happy children as they came into school this morning. I will be in the playground in the mornings this week so please come and say hello. If you would like to speak in more detail about something specific then please make an appointment via the school office.

Over the past week staff have been working hard, creating exciting learning environments ready for the term. Thank you to Mrs Birdseye and her team for ensuring the school is ready for the beginning of term and to our super cleaners.

Over the coming term a range of workshops and learning experiences will be taking place in school so watch out for future dates and times in the newsletters. Please also check the school website as this contains all the relevant information including copies of letters as well as upcoming events through the calendar.

Please also check your child's book bags regularly as there will be lots of information for the new school year including contact information forms and curriculum newsletters. We look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming year.

Mr Hopkins
Headteacher

STAFFING UPDATE

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Miss Lyndsay Vale who is our new School Business Manager. She will be working alongside Mrs. Birdseye in the school office everyday from 8am until 1pm. She is looking forward to getting to know the children and families over the coming weeks.

We also welcome Mrs Dellar and Mrs Carrington who have joined our cleaning team.

Congratulations to Mrs Hawkes (formerly Miss Grainger) on her wedding day during the summer holidays!

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club runs daily from 8:15 until 8:45 at the cost of £1 per day. Children have the option of cereals, toast, juice as well as time to play with a range of toys and games. Places are limited and a waiting list is kept when full. If you would like any further information or to register for a place then please speak to a member of staff in the school office.



School Photographs



The school photographer will be in school to take individual photographs on Tuesday 16th October. There will be an opportunity for siblings in school to have a joint photograph too. Further information will follow later in the term.

Playtime Snacks

In line with our healthy school policy children in Year One and Two may bring in a piece of fresh or dried fruit or vegetable for morning playtime. Please do not send in biscuits, crisps or sweets. Children in Foundation Stage will be provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable daily. All children are given a piece of fruit or vegetable in the afternoon as part of the Governments fruit and vegetable scheme.

School Uniform

Oldbrook First School has a bright and practical school uniform which we believe will help the children to adopt a community identity. The following are our agreed school colours and uniform expectation. School uniform can be purchased with the school logo from the school office.

| Boys Uniform | Girls Uniform |
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| Black or grey trousers or shorts | Black or grey skirt, pinafore or trousers |
| Polo Shirt – Either red, white, royal blue, sky blue (with or without school logo) | Polo Shirt – Either red, white, royal blue, sky blue (with or without school logo) |
| School sweatshirt, cardigan and/or fleece in royal blue with the school's logo; <u>all children must wear either a school jumper or cardigan.</u> | School sweatshirt, cardigan and/or fleeces in royal blue with the school's logo; <u>all children must wear either a school jumper or cardigan.</u> |
| Black shoes or trainers | Black shoes or trainers |
| | Summer Dress – Checked navy blue or red |
| | Hijab – Black or Blue (single colour not patterned) |
| | Plain tights (white / grey / blue) only |
| | Simple hair bands and ties only |
| No jewellery except stud earrings (children need to be able to remove these by themselves for PE) | |

Children are expected to be able to dress and undress themselves, so clothing that is easy to manage is recommended. Short-sleeved polo shirts are much easier for young children to manage than blouses/shirts with small buttons. Please ensure that all uniform is named including shoes.

Children need to wear sensible shoes to school. High-heeled shoes, strappy sandals, clogs and other unsuitable footwear should not be worn for safety reasons.

Physical Education

Please ensure that your child has a PE kit in school every day. We recommend that you bring the kit to school each term and leave in school until the end of term in case their PE lesson days change for any reason. PE kit consists of a plain tee shirt, plain shorts and plimsolls or trainers. The children will also need a pair of plain tracksuit bottoms or leggings for outdoor PE as it may be cold or wet. **Children with pierced ears must be able to remove their earrings before all PE lessons.** If you are planning on having your child's ear pierced please wait until the summer holidays so there is enough time for them to heal before they need removing for PE. Earring can only be studs. No other jewellery should be worn.



School Dinners

All children in school are entitled to a free school meal each day as part of the governments Universal Free School Meal offer. Having a hot meal could save you up to £400 per year.

This term we are very excited to be using a new meal provider, Dolce. Existing families will have received information as to how to order your child's meals online. We hope this new way of ordering will help parents in selecting meals which their child will enjoy eating! Unfortunately we are unable to provide a dinner if one has not been ordered. Please logon to <https://live-kitchen.co.uk/cashless/> if you have not yet ordered for your child. You may prefer to order them a week at a time or for the term.

Children can still bring a packed lunch, however I would encourage all children to try the new meal service first. Packed lunches provided from home must only contain cold foods and be balanced with only one treat. (No cold fish fingers, chicken nuggets, burgers etc).

As a school we promote healthy eating and kindly ask that packed lunches do not contain chocolate and other confectionary. As we have some children with allergies we ask that foods containing nuts are not used in packed lunches e.g. peanut butter, nutella or pots of nuts etc. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Attendance

At Oldbrook First School, we recognise the importance of regular school attendance and believe that children can only learn effectively if they attend school regularly. It is also vitally important that children arrive by 8:45 and leave school on time. All parents are asked to contact school if their child is absent, giving a reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you and we cannot get in contact with you then an unauthorised mark will be recorded on the register.

This term the children will be working towards achieving the Excellent Attendance Award for Term 1 (98+%)

Due to Government Policy, holidays and leave of absence will NOT be authorised in term time. All Holidays taken will result in a fixed penalty fine being issued by Milton Keynes Council.

Supervision

Children must be supervised at all times before and after school whilst on the school premises. Cycles and scooters are not to be used on the playground during this time or left at school during the school day.

Living and Learning Together

Thank you

Dear children, Parents and Carers

I would like to say a very big thank you for all my cards and lovely gifts I received on my retirement at the end of last term.

Thinking of you all as the new term begins, I shall miss you all very much.

Best wishes

Mrs Merrington

Diary Dates



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| Tuesday 4th September | Start of Term 1 |
| Friday 21st September | Jeans for Genes Day |
| Wednesday 10th October | Harvest Festival |
| Monday 15th October | Parent Consultations |
| Tuesday 16th October | Individual Photographs |
| Tuesday 16th October | Parent Consultations |
| Monday 22nd October | Year 1 Learning Celebration |
| Monday 22nd October | Black History Week |
| Wednesday 24th October | Foundation Learning Celebration |
| Thursday 25th October | Year 2 Learning Celebration |
| Thursday 25th October | Last Day of Term 1 |
| Friday 26th October | Half Term Starts |
| Monday 5th November | Start of Term 2 |



We're on the Web
www.oldbrookschoo.co.uk