

TPS Newsletter 6.6.22

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Welcome back to Summer 2.

You might think that things begin to wind down in school as the Summer holidays approach, but not at Templars—these few weeks are going to race by. In school we begin to plan and resource for next school year and just like many of you we are facing some challenges, including rising prices. The cost of paper alone has gone up by approximately 40% at a time when all exercise books and stationary needs replacing. We are also currently bidding for support to refurbish the pupil toilets.

Most families are now aware that trips are subsidised for those on Free School Meals but if you are new to school, want more information, your circumstances change or as your child moves into Year 3 in particular, please ring the office who will help you find out if you qualify.

I have been asked recently what we do for working parents—for those on low income we know it is really tight, schools are on very tight budgets too. The answer is as much as we can—unlike many schools our clubs are all free and we make no charge to take children on sporting fixtures. We have made a contract with Ridley's coaches to keep trip costs low but you may be surprised that a 53 seated coach for a trip to Birmingham costs £240 for example. We are not allowed to make a profit from any trip and have worked really hard to balance the cost of trips over the year and let you know in advance to set up payment plans.

Every Child, Every Day, Every Chance this week:

We begin this half-term

by waving off many of our Year 6's to Dol-y-Moch for the week, whilst those remaining can look forward to a range of extra-curricular treats. It was only when we looked at the great number of clubs led by those adults going, did we realise it would be clearer and simpler for all, if clubs were cancelled this week but they will be back in full from Week 2 until the end of the year.

Year 6 might be post SAT's but this term is extremely important, particularly this year as we make sure they are ready both academically and also socially and emotionally for their secondary schooling. Learning and good behaviour continues to the very last day!

For other year groups, this week will include a **Boost Day** to revitalise the topic they are learning and for pupils to add ideas to planning for the rest of the term. Plans vary from year group to year group but be sure to ask your child what theirs involves. If you want to know more about what your child should know by the end of the year in all subjects, be sure to look at their Year Group website page:

Finally, Year 1 pupils and some Year 2 will begin their Phonics Screening this week to make sure their early reading skills are developing and Year 4 will begin the new National Times Tables Testing this week too. We never make a 'big thing' about assessments and teachers and teaching assistants will make sure the children hardly notice but if you want to know more, please ask your class teacher.

We have not increased school meal prices for a few years or the cost for Out of School Club.

We have very regular, excellent, second-hand uniform sales made available for only a voluntary donation but if any child needs anything in between—please ask.

Nevertheless times are tough and getting tougher—if you need help, do not hesitate to raise any financial issues (or other) with our excellent admin. A team who have years of experience in supporting parents. All discussions are confidential and with care, respect and honesty, a solution can always be found. Any rudeness directed to staff who are doing their best to help however, will always be challenged.

You said : we listened!

Last term several issues were raised by parents and I wanted to report back on how we have responded:

- Training has taken place with all staff on reminding pupils to apply suntan lotion on school trips
- I was asked about a bag search policy—we didn't have one but I am refreshing the behaviour policy and it will be included next year
- It was raised that pupils and parents of children in Key Stage 1 were not aware of the Peer-Mentoring Programme at Templars—I hope Charlie's article in the 15.5.22 Newsletter explained all

We don't always get things right, but I think you would be surprised at just how hard we try. If you have a suggestion, please feel free to see me on the gate or email me via the office.

Dates for your Diary:

SEN coffee mornings: transition with Katherine from CCT Tuesday 14th June at 9am, then general advice on Thursday 23rd June at 9am including a chance to talk with a parent with ADHD herself.

New to Reception: Parent Meeting 23rd June 5.30pm **Chat, Play, Read events** 12th, 13th and 14th July

Sports Day Wed 29th June – Sports Day KS2 am / KS1 pm

New To School in Years 3-5 Parents' Afternoon Tea Tuesday 21st June 2.15pm

New to Nursery Parent Meeting Thursday 30th June 5.30pm

Moving up to Year 3 Parent Meeting Wed. 20th July 5.30pm

Coventry Transition Day/Templars Moving up Day Wednesday 6th July

New to Year 1: Parent Meeting Wed. 6th July 5.30pm **and Chat, Play, Read events** 19th, 20th, 21st July

Summer Fayre Friday 8th July 3pm

Year 6 Performances at Westwood Academy Friday 15th July

Break up for Summer and Year 6 leavers assembly and lunch for parents Friday 22nd July

Return to School September