



A message from Mrs Bates...

Welcome back to everyone! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. It has been lovely to see all the children back and to welcome some new faces into the school. Children have settled well and school life is back in full swing, with exciting events already taking place such as History off the Page for Year 4 and our new lunchtime activities.

Year 4 became Romans for the day last week! They had a brilliant time getting to experience activities linked to how Romans lived. They learned about Roman life and what impact they had on society today.



We're excited to share that several new activities are now available for children to enjoy at lunchtime. These include a small world play area, den building, a mud kitchen, and even Pickleball—offering a fantastic mix of creative and active play. Over the course of this term, even more equipment will be added, including brand new trim trail apparatus and a large sandpit, which we know will be a big hit! It's been an absolute joy to see the children so engaged, and the new opportunities are already making a hugely positive impact on lunchtime experiences.



We are delighted to welcome our new Reception children, who have made a fantastic start to school life. They are settling in beautifully, already showing great confidence and enthusiasm in their new routines. We are especially impressed with how well they line up and move around the school—such brilliant behaviour from our youngest pupils! We're also pleased to be welcoming our new preschool starters, who have begun their settling-in sessions with smiles and curiosity. It's wonderful to see them exploring their new environment and beginning their journey with us.

You may have noticed some building works taking place over the summer holidays. These were to carry out much-needed repairs to the heating system in the original part of the school, as well as to replace some of the boilers serving the kitchen. I'm pleased to share that the work is now complete, and everything is up and running. With cooler weather on the way, we're hopeful the heating will be fully operational when we need it—fingers crossed!

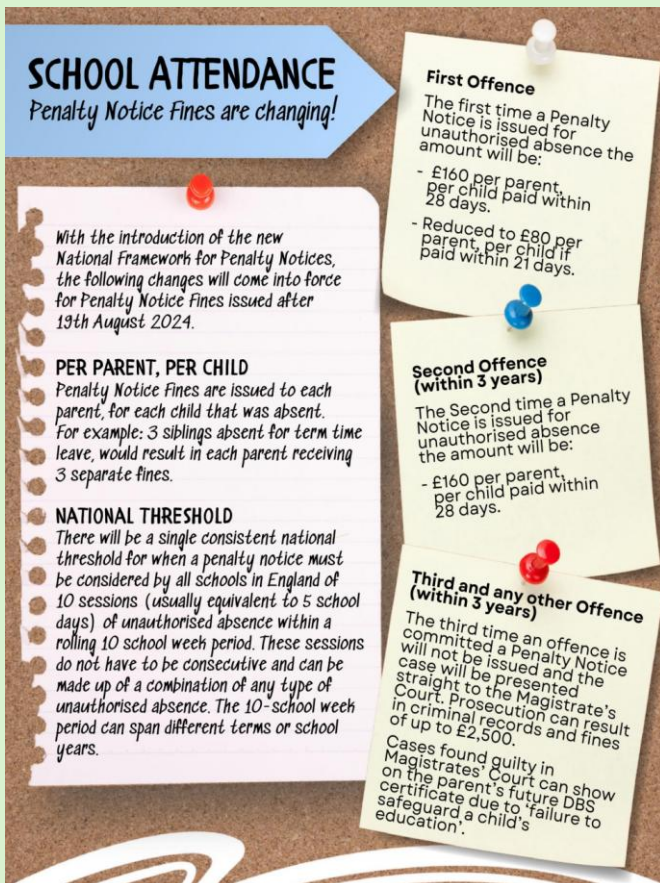
Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Bates 😊

Attendance

As we start the school year, I just wanted to remind you of the importance of good attendance. Please note that holidays of any kind will always be an unauthorised absence. 10 sessions (5 school days) within a rolling 10-week period will lead to a penalty notice fine. Lates after the register has closed at 9.10am also count as an unauthorised absence.

When children arrive late at school, they disrupt routines, affect other children's learning, miss the teacher's instructions to the lesson and may also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late. They may also miss important intervention programmes and the opportunity to practice key learning skills.



If you are having difficulties with your child's attendance or reluctance to come to school, please come and speak to us. We want to work with you to ensure that your child has the best possible start to their education and is in school every day and on time.

Dates

Monday 15th – Thursday 18th September

Y5 and Y6 Bikeability

Friday 19th September

Y2 History off the Page

Thursday 25th September

Flu vaccinations R to Y6

Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd October

Parent consultations 3.30pm -7pm

Trips and Annual Contributions

As many of you will be aware, school budgets are under increasing pressure, and like many families, we are feeling the impact of rising costs. Unfortunately, this means we are no longer able to subsidise all school trips as we have done in the past. We fully appreciate that the cost of living continues to affect everyone, and we remain committed to keeping trips as affordable as possible. However, we will be asking for full payment for most trips going forward, along with inviting families to make an annual voluntary contribution to help support enrichment opportunities. In some cases, if we are unable to cover the cost, trips may regrettably have to be cancelled. Children eligible for Pupil Premium funding will still have reduced amounts.

Just as an example, for the recent Year 4 History off the Page we received £264 from parents. This is less than 50% and is 30% of the actual cost of the day.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding.