



6th Sept 2016

## *The Reginald Mitchell News*



*"work together...learn together...reach for the sky"*

Welcome back to school!!

We hope you had a good summer and are ready for a busy term settling back into school.

Thank you to those parents who completed the questionnaire before the summer holidays. We have considered your comments carefully and implemented some new procedures in response.

You said.....

- Security was a worry.....the side gate alongside our classrooms will now remain locked. The playground entrance off Cedar Avenue should be used to drop off and collect children. The lower car park gates will be locked at 9am and will remain so until 3.15pm. Children should not come into school using the front office entrance.
- More activities / after school clubs..... we have revised our after school club provision and will be offering different clubs this year. Please look out for the clubs letter coming soon.
- Why does school have to be used as a polling station.....we contacted Newcastle Borough Council to ask. They replied that school is used for the BBB01 polling district in the Butt Lane Ward. There are certain criteria that are looked at when choosing polling stations and convenience for the electorate in the polling district is one, as well as access for all electors. They conduct polling reviews regularly and will certainly look to see if there are suitable alternative polling stations during the next review.
- Communication needs to be better.....we have arranged weekly drop in sessions for each class. Teachers will be available to speak to you between 3.15—4.30pm on a specific day each week, no appointment necessary—just call in. Drop in days for each teacher will be advised to you. These sessions will start week commencing 12th September 2016.
- Communication.....children have been issued with planners. These will be used for homework, reminders and as a communication system between home / school. If you have any messages / comments please write in your child's planner.
- Communication.....our new website is live and we hope you'll agree that it looks great! There will be information and copy letters posted on the site so please keep it in your favourites. [www.reginaldmitchell.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.reginaldmitchell.staffs.sch.uk)

### Attendance / Term time holidays

Attendance at school is extremely important and being regularly absent will affect your child's ability to learn and do well.

You may be aware of a recent court case which focused national attention on the fining of parents for taking their children on holidays in school term time. As a result of this, the county council are reviewing the rules around unauthorised absence and issuing penalty notices to parents.

Whilst the review is ongoing, we will continue to review all requests for leave in term time and report all unauthorised absences to the county council. As a temporary measure when a child has 10 days or more unauthorised absence over two half terms in a row then a penalty notice may be issued to the parents/ carers of that child.

Please support us by making medical appointments outside school time where possible and providing appointment cards / letters for dental / hospital appointments.

Thank You

### **SPITFIRES BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

**Our before and after school club runs from 7.30am and until 5.30pm. For full details of charges please contact the school office.**

### **Reminders**

#### **School Dinners**

School dinners cost £2.15 per day and must be paid for either in advance or on the day the dinner is taken.

#### **Arrears are not permitted!!**

Please contact the office if you have any queries concerning dinner money / payment methods / menus

#### **Snack**

Snack for KS1 children will now be available at breaktime from the kitchen. Toast is available at 25p per slice or a crumpet for 35p.

Payment can be made on Parentpay or please send cash into the office in a sealed, named envelope.

#### **Water bottles**

We no longer have a stock of school water bottles on sale. Children should bring their own bottles in. Please make sure your child has a water bottle in school each day.

#### **Contact Forms**

Please complete the contact forms (both sides!) and return to us—its vital that we have your up to date contact details and are aware of any children's medical issues.



### Dates for your diary

05/09/2016	Inset day—staff training
13/09/2016	The Kings School intake evening 7pm-9pm
24/09/2016	The Kings School intake morning 10am-12pm
28/09/2016	Academy photos—families / siblings / individuals
24/10/2016— 28/10/2016	October half term holiday
31/10/2016	Inset day—staff training
01/11/2016	Pupils return to school
08/11/2016	Attendance clinic
25/11/2016	Flu Immunisation Y1/Y2/Y3
19/12/2016— 03/01/2017	Christmas Holidays