

St. Michael's V.A. Junior School

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8 St. Michaels VA Junior School, Sowthorpe

Heard Tearcher

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Clover Hill V.A. Infant & Nursery School

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2nd September 2021

Welcome back to school!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your child have had a good summer. We are looking forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 6th September. Hopefully your child is excited about coming back to school!

Monday 6th September - Welcome back!

New children to the school and children in Year 3 in September will go straight onto the school playground when they arrive in school and their teacher and teaching assistants will meet them. Parents can say their goodbyes at the playground gates and staff will be around to support new children. All other children can head straight onto the playground too and will follow their class teacher into school when the first bell goes.

Start and finish times

School starts at 8.45am and the children can come onto the playground from 8.30am. School will finish at 3.15pm for all children. We ask that if you need to send your child into school before 8.30am that they attend Breakfast Club. We cannot assume responsibility for children in school before 8.30am and they will not be supervised.

School uniform

School uniform should be worn. This is available to order on our school website, if you haven't done so already. However, school uniform sweatshirts in our school colour, t-shirts and trousers from a supermarket is acceptable if you have been unable to buy the recommended uniform. Please send your child to school in sensible dark shoes or black trainers. Please name all items of clothing.

We have some lost property left from last year which we will put outside next week.

Bubbles

The government has advised that bubbles are not necessary anymore so we will be as near normal as we can be in school.

PE Kit

The children will be told their timetable and PE day on the first day back (Monday 6th September). Children will come to school in their PE kit on their PE day. It is important that PE kit is appropriate for the weather, so please bear that in mind as we head into winter.

Lunches

School lunches will be eaten in the school hall. The menus are on our website and parents will need to book using ParentPay.

Extra-curricular activity clubs

We will be offering a full range of activities to enrich the curriculum. Some of these will be run by school staff and some by outside providers. More information will soon be available. Parents will be invited to book places and clubs are likely to start week beginning 13th September.

Angels' Out of School Care

We will fully resume our Breakfast Club (starting at 7.45am) and our After School Childcare Club (till 5.45pm). Children who attend Clover Hill also attend and will be taken between the schools. At the moment we are unable to use our school minibus so we may operate a walking bus or use staff vehicles (with the correct level of insurance). Booking for our out of school care is on ParentPay. Please see our website for more details.

Class Dojo

We will continue to use ClassDojo as a way of keeping you informed about your child's progress. If you have any problems with this, please let the school know.

Pastoral Support

If you feel that your child requires emotional or well-being support, please respond to the online survey we sent out this week. The past two school years have been hard on children and we are seeing that more children need support of some kind.

Attendance

The government has announced that full school attendance is expected this year. By taking your child out of school for holidays or not ensuring that they have good attendance, your child will fall behind. The government will be requiring schools to take firm action in the case of poor attendance.

Personal items -phones and money

Your child does not need to bring personal items to school, unless specially requested to do so. We do not allow children to bring mobile phones to school. They do not need any money as we are totally cashless.

Hygiene and cleaning

The increased Covid cleaning arrangements remain in place and we will still be mindful of potential increased risks of transmission on a local and national level. We will still ask children to wash or sanitise their hands regularly.

Positive cases of Covid

We ask that parents continue to work with us to prevent outbreaks of covid in school. The government have told us that we need to live with covid in the background but we still need to take steps to keep everyone safe. If your child is unwell, please do not send them into school. If they have covid symptoms do not send them to school. If we believe that your child is exhibiting covid symptoms while in school, we will ask you to collect them. We have been very grateful that parents have informed us of positive cases and ask that you continue to do so. The government do not require schools to pass on information to parents if there is a covid case in school. Children are not required to isolate if there is a positive case in their class. However, if we have an outbreak we will seek guidance from the Outbreak Management Team.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you next week.

Your sincerely,

HJ McCarney

Mrs H. McCarney Headteacher