



Brackensdale Infant School

www.brackensdalei.derby.sch.uk

Welcome back after the summer holidays. I hope everyone had an enjoyable time. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Brackensdale Infant School to our new families and children. I look forward to meeting you all during the term.

Kara Wickland is now a permanent member of our office team, Mrs. Wickland, is working Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays and Fridays.

Mrs. Hassall is currently on maternity leave, baby Lukas was born at the beginning of September. Miss Samuel has taken over Mrs. Hassall's duties relating to speech and language programmes and liaison with the therapists.

Harvest Festival

The first event of the new school year is the Harvest Festival, which takes place on Wednesday 28 September.

9.30 KS1 classes (Koalas, Panthers, Giraffes, Foxes, and Owls)

10.15 FS2 classes (Chimps and Penguins)

We would welcome gifts of tinned and processed food to celebrate harvest. Fresh fruit and vegetables are also very welcome. We will be donating the harvest produce to The Padley Centre again this year. The Padley Centre supports Derby's homeless community.



A choir of children from Y2 will be singing at the annual Padley concert on Wednesday 12 October at Derby Cathedral.

Upcoming Events

September 28

Harvest Festival

Wednesday 5 October

"No Pens Day"

Week commencing 17 October

Parent consultations

Thursday 20 October

Diwali Day

Friday 21 October

School closes for half-term

Monday 31 October

School reopens

Thursday 3 November

3.30-5.00 "Sparkle Disco"

Week commencing 14 November

Anti-bullying week

Week commencing 12 December

Christmas concerts and parties

Tuesday 20 December

School closes for Christmas

Thursday 5 January 2017

Children return to school

School Improvement Plan

Our school priorities for the coming year are:

1. Improving the overall performance of the children, particularly in writing.
2. Continuing to ensure that teaching throughout the school is consistently good or outstanding.
3. Continuing to review and refine the way we are assessing the children. This is particularly in KS1, where we are now very clear what the end of Y2 assessment framework looks like.
4. Behaviour and welfare – implementing a new behaviour policy and continuing to work with parents to improve attendance.

Test dates

The Y2 assessments will take place during May 2017. Y1 children will take the phonics test during week commencing 12 June 2017, along with Y2 children who did not pass the test this summer.

Attendance

We continue to focus on improving attendance, and most children attend school regularly and on time, well done! We will continue to reward classes for attendance in our weekly Friday assembly.

Please note the following with regard to the issuing of penalty notices from the Education Welfare Service:

Derby City Council and Derby schools consider that regular attendance and punctuality is of such importance that Penalty Notices may be issued where a pupil has had periods of unauthorised time away from school at any point in the school year. This includes: Where the parent/carer takes a child on holiday during term-time without the school's permission.

School meals

From Monday 31 October, school meals will be provided in house instead of through Chartwells. Please look out for sample menus and questionnaires, as we are keen to ensure that the new menus take into account the preferences of children at Brackensdale Infant and Junior schools.

Important Information

School closes on February 10 for half-term and reopens on 20 February

School closes on Friday 7 April for the Easter holiday and reopens on Monday 24 April

May Day bank holiday is Monday 1 May 2017

School closes on Friday 26 May for half-term and reopens on Tuesday 6 June

Monday 5 June INSET DAY

Thursday 6 July

Summer Fair

Tuesday 11 July

Joint sports morning for KS1 children with junior school

The summer term ends for the children on **Tuesday 25 July**

1 further INSET day to be arranged



Children return to school on Thursday 7 September 2017