



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you all for your continued support and suggestions on how to make our school the best place possible.

I have contacted the company who designed the display in the front office and asked them to change the Urdu and Kurdish welcome phrases following feedback from parents. I'm hoping this will get rectified soon.

The head of our kitchen and I would like to work with parents to develop the school dinner menu to make it more appealing for our pupils and to reflect the diverse community we have. I am looking for 5 parents to join a group to work on this. There will be a meeting for you to attend with the Head Chef and the Headteacher to gather your ideas and discuss what is possible. Please give your name to the school office if you would like to join this group and we will let you know when the meeting will be.

Thank you to parents who joined our workshops this week. There are more workshops planned this half term, see the key dates list or speak to your child's class teacher for further information.


Please join us for our first **coffee morning of the year on Thursday at 8.50am**. We will be decorating biscuits whilst having a coffee/tea and a chat with each other.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs. L Mahony, Headteacher

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Spotlight on: FGM



Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or any other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM has been categorised into four types, ranging from a symbolic prick to the clitoris, to the fairly extensive removal and narrowing of the vaginal opening. All these forms of FGM have been found in the UK. FGM is sometimes known as 'female genital cutting' or female circumcision. It's often performed by someone with no medical training, using instruments such as knives, scalpels, scissors, glass or razor blades. Children are rarely given anaesthetic or antiseptic treatment and are often forcibly restrained. It's used to control female sexuality and can cause long-lasting damage to physical and emotional health.

The World Health Organisation estimates that three million girls undergo some form of the procedure every year in Africa alone. It is practised in 28 countries in Africa and some in the Middle East and Asia. FGM is considered to be child abuse in the UK and is a violation of the child's right to life, their bodily integrity as well as of their right to health

FGM is **illegal in the UK**. It is also an offence for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to carry out FGM abroad or to assist the carrying out of FGM abroad.

If you are concerned that a child may be at risk of FGM you can call the NSPCC FGM helpline on 0800 028 3550 for more information or email them at fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk

Year 6 Parents: Secondary School Applications

Applications open on 1 September 2023 for secondary school applications for entry in September 2024. The closing date is 31 October 2023 at 11:59pm.

It is really important that you apply on time. If you apply late you are less likely to get offered a place at any of your preferred schools. **Applications received after the 31 October 2023 will be classed as late applications and will not be processed until after the offer of places on 1 March 2024.**

Mrs Downs can support parents with the application form. Please make an appointment via the school office.

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/1778/apply_for_a_secondary_school_year_7_place/3#:~:text=Applications%20open%20on%201%20September,any%20of%20your%20preferred%20schools.

Universal Free School Meals/Free School Meals

If you are entitled to Universal Free School Meals/Free School Meals and have access to a computer with an internet connection this process only takes a couple of minutes. The web address is www.link2ict.org/FSM. **We would like to request that all parents apply for the Universal Free School Meals/Free School Meals, even if your child has a packed lunch or is in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.**

If you are not sure if you are entitled, please complete the form and return to the office and they will carry out the check for you - please complete all of the information and sign.

School meal letter sent home today – EVERY CHILD MUST RETURN THE LETTER

Please complete the letter your child has brought home, selecting what meal type you wish them to have in school. **If you child is eligible for FSM or Universal FSM (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) we still need you to complete the form and return to the office.**

Year 5 Bikeability

Year 5 were sent a letter to take part in a free Bike riding workshop on Monday 2nd October. Can all children who have returned the forms remember to bring in their bike and a helmet on Monday.



Key Dates

REMEMBER: We finish at 2.30pm every Friday. There is no club after school on a Friday.

- **Wednesdays: Year 3 Swimming lessons**
- **Wednesday 4th October: Year 4 Parent Workshop 8.50am**
- **Thursday 5th October: National Poetry Day**
- **Thursday 31st September: Parent Coffee morning 8.50am**
- **18th – 20th October: Year 6 residential**
- **Monday 30th October – 3rd November: School closed for Half Term Break**