



Friday 5th January 2024

Dear Parents and Pupils

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year and we hope that a resolution is quickly found to end all ongoing conflict across the world. We also hold close in our hearts and prayers, anyone who has been affected by the recent storms that have battered the UK and the earthquake which has caused devastation in Japan.

All pupils return to school on **TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY** – 8am for Before School Club and 8.35am for all pupils. Below are some key dates for the term and year but we will send more specific year group dates over the next few days.

Key dates

Spring term		
Monday 8 th January 2024	Staff training	School closed
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	School reopens for all pupils	
Friday 9 th February 2024	Create Partnership Trust staff training	School closed
Monday 12 th February 2024-Friday 16 th February 2024	Half term holiday	School closed
Monday 19 th February 2024	School reopens for all pupils	
Friday 22 nd March	End of Spring term	
Monday 25 th March 2024-Friday 5 th April 2024	School closed for end of term/Easter holidays	School is closed

Summer term		
Monday 8 th April 2024	School reopens for all pupils	
Thursday 2 nd May 2024	Polling day	School closed
Friday 3 rd May 2024	Staff training	School closed

Monday 13 th May-Friday 17 th May	KS2 SATs week	
Friday 24 th May 2024	End of Summer 1	
Monday 27 th May 2024-Friday 31 st May 2024	School closed for half term holiday	School is closed
Monday 3 rd June 2024	School reopens to all pupils	
Friday 5 th July 2024	Create Partnership Trust staff training	School closed
Monday 22 nd July 2024	Staff training End of academic year	School closed
Tuesday 23 rd July 2024-Friday 29 th August 2024	School closed for summer holidays	School closed
Monday 2 nd September 2024	New academic year Staff training	School closed



Key dates Spring 1 (as it stands)

Monday 8 th January	School closed for Staff training
Tuesday 9 th January	School opens to all pupils – 8am Before School Club 8.35am all pupils; After School Club from 3.30pm
Friday 12 th January	King Edward's Grammar School Foundation Outreach programme starts for nominated pupils
Monday 15 th January	Curriculum Meeting 9am Year 1 Curriculum Meeting 2.30pm Year 2
Tuesday 16 th January	Year 1 to train at new Aston Villa Academy Facility Curriculum Meeting 2.30pm Reception
Thursday 18 th January	Curriculum meeting 9am Year 3 Curriculum Meeting 2.30pm Year 4
Friday 19 th January	Curriculum Meeting 9am Year 5 Curriculum Meeting 2.30pm Year 6
Wednesday 24 th January	Learn with me Parent Workshop Year 1 9am
Friday 1 st February	Artist visiting for the day arranged by Create Partnership Trust
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer Internet Day Safer Internet Day workshops for Parents 9am and 2.30pm Parent Teacher Meetings from 3.30pm
Wednesday 7 th February	Parent Teacher Meetings from 3.30pm
Thursday 8 th February	1T to perform to parents celebrating the Chinese New Year 9am 1DH & 1K to perform to parents celebrating the Chinese New Year 2.30pm Spring 1 finishes-school closes usual time 3.10pm
Friday 9 th February	School closed to pupils Staff training with Create Partnership Trust
Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February	School closed for half term
Monday 19 th February	School opens to all pupils – 8am Before School Club 8.35am all pupils; After School Club from 3.30pm

COLDER WEATHER

While the winter has been mild thus far, could we ask if parents will ensure that your child comes to school wearing a suitable coat, hat, scarf and gloves so that they are able to partake in school life without getting cold.

Outdoor PE lessons will continue following a daily risk assessment by the Site Team so we ask if children can bring with them a tracksuit or jogging bottoms and a long-sleeved sweatshirt to keep them warm. **YEAR 6 CHILDREN ONLY TO WEAR SCHOOL PE KITS TO SCHOOL ON THE DAY OF PE PLEASE.**

AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION

This is available from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and can be booked using our Arbor app. Thank you to those parents who worked with us last half term in ensuring this system was set up and is now functioning.



**HODGE HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Road safety and darker mornings and afternoons

Although we are motoring through our Winter, the mornings and afternoons are still dark. Teachers will be reminding our children how to keep safe when walking to and from school, but we thought these resources may be useful for our parents too.

[roadsfactsheet.pdf \(capt.org.uk\)](#)

[Safer journeys anthem – THINK!](#)

[Crossing roads: kids know best – THINK!](#)

[Film: Road ready? Expect the unexpected – THINK!](#)

We are also advising our parents to make sure their children can be seen and advise that reflective and bright colours are worn [Be bright be seen game – THINK!](#)

Parking safely around school premises

Please can drivers ensure that they are parking within the law as laid out within the Highway Code. Here is the link if you need to remind yourselves [The Highway Code - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

In particular the law about parking can be found here [The Highway Code - Waiting and parking \(238 to 252\) - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

A small minority of our car drivers think its OK for them to stop on the yellow zig zag lines outside school as its only a minute , or to park on the curb blocking the drop down curb designed to help parents with buggies, prams or wheel chairs on Twycross Grove and some of our drivers think its OK to stop on the mini roundabout on Bromford Road and let children out of their cars. Just to be clear – none of these actions are OK in fact they are really dangerous – PLEASE STOP before a child is seriously hurt or worse.

Every parent will expect road users to be considerate of your child therefore you must be considerate of other people's children too.

Before School arrangements

We are noticing more children being dropped off by parents/older siblings/family members who are not staying with the children until the school gates open. The school gates open at 8.35am and yet some children are appearing outside from as early as 8.15am. This is a safeguarding concern for us.

Breakfast club is available every day and costs 50p per child. It starts at 8am.

Can Parents please be reminded to wait with their child until a member of the school leadership opens the gates and is then able to supervise the children as they come onto school site. Before 8.35am and unless your child attends Breakfast Club, you remain responsible for your child's safety.

Is your child starting at school in September 2024?

If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, you need to apply for a new reception school place. Applications are made online at [www.birmingham.gov.uk](#).

You must apply even if you already have a child at our school. Your rising 5-year-old will not automatically come to Hodge Hill – you must apply.

The deadline to apply is Monday 15th January. If you are unsure, please speak to our Office staff who will be able to help. If you do not apply, your child may not be allocated a place at our school.

Here is the link to our Ofsted report from June 2023 [50224290 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](#)

Looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 9th January. Bagels will be ready.