



# Newsletter No 1 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023



## Welcome Back

As the British summer begins, so has the new school year. We were delighted to welcome back the children this week and were bowled over by how smart and enthusiastic the children were as they walked through the gates on Tuesday morning. All classes spent their first two days getting to know their teachers and teaching assistants (using the 'Nordic Approach'), their classmates and recapping the expectations to ensure a safe and secure start to the new school year. A warm welcome to our new Nursery and Reception children who have all settled well in the Duckling, Wren and Robin classrooms, and a big welcome also to the many new families, whose children have joined throughout the school. We are all incredibly excited to continue to develop and improve the excellent opportunities which our children experience at Zouch and look forward to growing strong relationships with the school community.

## New Staff Welcomes

We are pleased to welcome two new teachers to the Zouch team; Mrs Charlton has started as the new year 5 teacher in Peregrine class and Miss Drummond has started as the new year 2 teacher in Woodpecker class.

## Scooters and Bikes

I am sure many of you have heard and been affected by the tragic news of a young child losing their life over the summer break. As a school we send our condolences and our thoughts are with those affected. We will continue to offer our Scootability and Bikeability courses this school year and will talk to the children about how to stay safe.

We ask that;

- Children walk their bikes and scooters to the bike store once they enter the gate
- Children wear the correct safety equipment.
- All bikes and scooters are in safe working order.

## Non- School Uniform Day (In memory of Jacob Fairclough)

We would like to support the family during this tragic time; therefore, we will be holding a non-school uniform day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. We will be holding a collection on the gate at the start of school.

## Uniform

The Zouch Academy uniform is very important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family, and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity that supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. All children are expected to wear the correct school uniform, and we encourage them to maintain an acceptable standard of clean and tidy dress in school. The commitment to wear our agreed school uniform will be a key feature of our home/school agreement.

Expectations can be found here:

[School Uniforms | Zouch Academy & Nursery \(twhf.org.uk\)](https://www.twhf.org.uk/school-uniforms)

Just for your information, Knights Tailoring in Ludgershall also stock our uniform, please see the link below for their website.

<https://shop.knightstailoring.co.uk/product-category/zouch-academy/>

## Communication

Unfortunately, as a school we are not exempt from the increasing costs that we are all seeing due to the cost-of-living crisis. We will be emailing out important information, and text messages will only be used as a last resort. **It is important that you check your emails regularly so that you read the communication sent out by the school so you can support your child/ren effectively. If you need to update your details, please do so in the office.** You can also edit your own information on Pupil Asset.

### Walk Home Permission

Children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) may be given permission to walk home from school. You will need to give permission via the school office so this is shown on the class register (please see email sent to Y3 parents, or ring the office).

Please note:

- If your child is in Year 4-6 and you have previously given permission to walk home, you do not need to give permission again.
- If you want to meet your child at the school gate or near the carpark, you must still give permission for them to leave the classroom alone.
- If children do not have permission, they will not be allowed to leave the classroom without an adult.

### Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the most important part of our role. At the start of the new school year, all children make paper 'Safeguarding Hands' which they keep in school for the year. On the hands, the children identify trusted adults and friends who can support them if they have a worry or concern. We want every child in our school to know that they can always talk to any adult if they have a worry.

### Collection from School

If your child is going to be regularly collected by another adult (friend, grandparent etc.) who is not already listed as a contact, please let the school office know.

If your child is going to be collected by a different adult on a one-off occasion, please let the class teacher or school office know in the morning.

### Medication

We have a number of children who have preventative medication in school such as Epi-pens and Inhalers. **If your child requires these, please ensure they have them in school. Please see the office team for the relevant paperwork.** The safety of our children is our main priority and ensuring they have access to the medication they need is of up most importance. It is also the parent's responsibility to ensure all medications are in date.

### PE and Forest Schools

Children will need to bring their kit for Forest School and PE in a named bag to change into. Here is the timetable:

Class	PE	Forest School
Puffins		Wednesday
YR (Robins and Wrens)	Monday	Monday
Y1 (Skylarks and Nightingales)	Thursday	Thursday
Y2 (Woodpeckers and Kingfishers)	Thursday	Tuesday
Y3 (Eagles and Merlins)	Friday	Wednesday (Weeks 4-6)
Y4 (Ospreys and Kestrels*)	Thursday (Osprey) Friday	
Y5 (Peregrines and Sparrowhawks)	Monday Wednesday	Wednesday (Weeks 1 – 3)
Y6 (Tawny and Snowy Owls)	Tuesday Wednesday	Friday (Weeks 1-3)

\*Swimming – Year 4 Kestrel Class – Monday, beginning on September 18th

(Please note: Nursery parents will be informed separately when PE and Forest School begin).

#### Future dates for your diary:

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September – Non-school Uniform**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September – Kestrel Swimming Starts**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – Rec to Y6 Nasal Flu Immunisation, further info to follow**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Individual Photographs**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Census Lunch**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Reception 2024 Open Morning at 9.30am (please book via the school office)**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Last day of term! Finish at 13.10pm**