



STIVICHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL
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6th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

As we start the beginning of an exciting new school year, we would like to extend a very warm welcome back to you all. I hope that you have all had a relaxing summer and filled the time making wonderful memories. Please note that this is a lengthy newsletter, you may want to grab a cup of tea or read it in instalments. There is a lot of information so it may be one you keep ready to reference at a later date; this would really help to prevent unnecessary and time-consuming calls to the school office which can prevent other important tasks from being completed.

It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and confidence the children have shown as they have started the new academic year in their new classroom with their new teachers. Our new reception children have also visited school this week for a 'stay and play' session as well as attending for half-day sessions. We look forward to them all starting full time on Monday.

We have sent out the Autumn Diary dates via email this week, but they are also attached to this newsletter should you want a copy.

Important Dates this term:

- Monday 9th September - Reception children start full time
- Monday 16th September - Year 6 Dol-Y-Moch Residential
- Monday 23rd September - Teacher Training Day – school closed for children
- Wednesday 25th September - Whole School (R to Y6) individual and siblings school photographs
- Wednesday 25th September - Last Forest school session for class 4S and 1/2M
- Friday 27th September - Open session for parents to visit their child's classroom 8.30-8.50
- Tuesday 1st October - Class 2S & 2P Warwick Castle Trip
- Wednesday 2nd October - First Forest school session for 1S and 4P
- Wednesday 2nd –Friday 4th October - Year 5 PGL Caythorpe Residential trip
- Thursday 3rd October - Harry Potter themed lunch
- Tuesday 8th October - Highly Sprung Workshop Year 4
- Monday 14th – Thursday 17th October - Book Fair
- Wednesday 16th October - Parents Consultation Meetings 3.30 – 7pm
- Friday 18th October - PTA Non-Uniform and Disco
- Friday 18th October - Show Racism the Red Card Day
- Wednesday 23rd October - Parents Consultation Meetings 3.30 – 7pm
- Wednesday 23rd October - Last Forest School session for 1S & 4P
- Friday 25th October - Teacher Training Day – school closed for children
- Monday 28th October - Half Term Week

Dismissal at the end of the School Day

You will have received a message via email earlier this week asking you to complete a form detailing the names of people able to collect your child at the end of the day. If your child is in Year 5 or 6, with parental permission they may be allowed to walk home unaccompanied. Parental permission can be given by completing the appropriate section on the form accessed via this link <https://forms.office.com/e/X9zMxFK2gQ>. We would appreciate your early attention in doing this so that the staff have access to the necessary information ASAP.

Mobile Phones

Only children in Year 5 or 6 for whom we have received permission from parents to walk home without parents are able to bring a mobile phone in to school on the days they walk home unaccompanied. Any phone brought to school must be handed to their class teacher to store in their cupboard. School accepts no liability for any damage, loss or theft of any phone. All phones must be switched off whilst they are on the school site.

School Bags

Every day bags should be flat and easy to fold and should be able to be stored in your child's class tray. The red school book bag is a good example which all children were given when they started at the school. Please do not send your child into school with a rucksack unless it is absolutely necessary. If you believe it to be necessary, please take the time to communicate this to your child's class teacher and they will decide whether an exception can be made. Exceptions would include, attending an after-school event for which a change of clothes is needed.

Where exceptions have been made, this is not a sign of inconsistency or inequality, it is in response to the circumstances for individual children. There are exceptions to every rule due to circumstances and context, therefore, please understand that when you see some children with rucksacks, there will usually be a very good reason. We thank you for your help and cooperation with this matter.

Seesaw

The 'roll up' for the children's class has now been completed and new login details have been generated for each child. Class teachers will issue the newly printed codes within the next week if they have not done so already. Please ensure that your child uses this to login, and it is imperative that this print-out is kept safe, if it is lost then the code has to be reset for the whole account including the class teacher, I'm sure you can appreciate the time involved in doing this. You are now able to link more than one child to a seesaw account. Please follow the link below for instructions on how to do this if you wish.

[How to add another student to your family account – Seesaw Help Center](#)

Seesaw will continue to be used for:

- Sharing class messages and learning for the following week
- Setting home learning tasks
- Uploading learning from home or school

Celebration and Class Assemblies

We value the achievements of all our children here at Stivichall and we celebrate these in assemblies. You will be notified via email if your child has been nominated for a Celebration Award and invited to attend the assembly a week prior to the date. Information on class assemblies will be shared through the newsletter and Seesaw so please keep a look out.

Reporting child absence

May I kindly remind you that all absences must be reported to school by 9.30 am at the very latest on the first morning of absence. Parents should call the school number and select option 1 to report a child absence. This service is available 24 hours a day. Please remember to give a brief description of the reason for the absence noting that 'unwell' is not sufficient and causes extra work for the office staff in following up any such messages.

Online Safety

We were delighted to receive the news that our school has been re-accredited with the 360 Degree Safe Online Safety Mark. This award has been granted due to our provision for online safety and is valid for the next three years. We strive as a school to ensure that our children are equipped with the knowledge and understanding of navigating the online world safely and we thank our teachers and the OSCOM team for their hard work in achieving this. An important aspect of online safety is parental monitoring of usage at home. We will continue to send advice and updates via the weekly newsletter.



Lost Property

Sadly, despite all the reminders given throughout the year and the requests made towards the end of the academic year, there were seven large refuse sacks of lost property left on site. I would estimate the costs of repurchasing these items at circa £700. This phenomenon is easily remedied by labelling all clothing and equipment and encouraging children to be proactive in looking for mislaid items. We urgently request your help in reducing our lost property problem. Please label belongings.

PE

Children must come into school on their PE day/s in their school PE kit which must be suitable for the weather. PE days for each year group have been shared via Seesaw. Children can wear jogging bottoms over shorts if for example they have gymnastics or dance, and it is a cold day. If they are doing outdoor PE, then they will need school shoes to change into to avoid mud being spread around the school. If children have pumps instead of trainers, these may not be supportive enough for a full day's wear and particularly for lunchtimes, therefore school shoes may be sent in to change into. Any spare shoes brought in must be in a small carrier bag that can fit neatly into the child's individual tray. House colour PE hoodies are allowed, or alternatively, school jumpers/cardigans can be worn over the top to keep warm but no other hoodies or jumpers please. If children have an extra-curricular activity requiring a change of clothes, they will need to bring their kit with them to change in school. All items of clothing must be clearly named. Any unnamed lost property will be put in the lost property box located on the school playground near to the office window.

Communication

Our main method of communication between school and home for letters/forms/correspondence will predominantly be via email and your My Child at School account so it is imperative that you check your emails and messages regularly. Please remember to update your MCAS app with any contact changes including address, mobile number or email addresses. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Meals

A reminder that meals need to be chosen and ordered by 10pm on the Thursday prior to the week they are to be taken. Parents will need to log on to their My Child at School account and choose the meal items for each day their child will need a meal prepared in school. Meals need to be paid for at the time of booking. Failure to do so will result in meal bookings being cancelled. It is advisable for parents to keep their account in credit at all times.

Please note, school will no longer be responsible for booking school lunches for your child unless in very exceptional circumstances. Children who are entitled to universal free school meals (Reception, Year 1 and 2) or benefit-related free school meals, will still need to order their child's lunch in the same way as above. When you start to add items to order, a total will be created but once you click on confirm this will revert to £0. MCAS will automatically be set to recognise when a child is entitled to free school meals.

Please remember to check your MCAS account regularly for any outstanding balances.

Packed Lunches / Snacks

Can I please take this opportunity to remind everyone that we are a **nut free school**, some of our pupils have serious allergies so we ask you to be mindful of this when sending in snacks or packed lunches. If children are having grapes, can we ask they are cut into halves or quarters as they present a choking risk when whole.

Free school meals

Are you eligible for benefit-related free school meals?

All children in Reception to Year 2 automatically receive a free school meal. However, if your family also meets the eligibility criteria to enable a free school meal to be awarded, it is important to make an application in order that your child's school can receive this pupil premium.

Entitlement to Free School Meals are processed as part of Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support claims by the Benefits Service. Free School Meals are a statutory benefit. Applying for a free school meal could raise up to an extra £1320 per annum for six years for your child's school (funded by central government). This can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support for your school (and is still paid to the school even if your entitlement ceases).

Please use this link to access all the criteria and complete the form – it only takes two minutes:

[Free school meals – Coventry City Council](#)

Payment Reminders

The following trip payments are now due. You can pay via your My Child at School account. Please make sure that all paperwork for this trip is returned to school asap. If you need another EDVIS form, then please contact the school office.

- Year 5 PGL Residential Trip – Final balance due by **Monday 9th September**

Music Lessons

Music lessons will resume next week, and all requests have been met, unless you have been told otherwise. Please note that keyboard and guitar lessons are not an option for children in Year 2.

The timetable is as follows:

- Drums - Monday
- Strings - Tuesday
- Guitars - Tuesdays and Fridays
- Piano - Wednesday and Fridays
- Woodwind - Thursday
- Strings - Friday

The children who will have their guitar lesson on Fridays, will be told in advance. Please make sure that any instruments are clearly labelled with your child's name. With the exception of guitar and recorder, new starters will be allocated their instrument in their first lesson, and children will need to remember to bring in their books. Can current music students please bring their music diary to continue with and new starters will be given one when their lessons begin.

Orchestra will take place during Thursday lunchtimes and will start next week.

Thank you for all the support you give the children with their practising at home. We look forward to music performances throughout the year.

Music Contracts: These have been sent home this week. Please sign and return one copy to school by Monday, 9th September. Payment will be available via your My Child at School account later this half term.

Knights of the Times Table Update

Children are doing well at sticking with their times table learning at Stivichall. The 'Knights of the Times Table' initiative continues to work well. Children say that the badges and medals are helping to motivate them to learn and practise these key number facts – learning them so thoroughly means that the confidence and quick recall will hopefully stay with them for life. The following is a reminder to show the tables that each year group will be learning this year and gives a suggestion for what previous tables to practise. The tables 'badge challenge' that your child will be taking next week depends on what they have already achieved. Good luck to all children and keep practising.

Year Group	Teaching and Learning	Focus for checking and practice
Reception	Counting in 10s, 2s and 5s	Counting in 1s
Year 1	Number Bonds to 10 (and to 20) 10 and 2 times tables	Number Bonds to 10 (and to 20) 10 and 2 times tables
Year 2	2, 5 and 3	Counting in 2, 5 and 10s 10 times tables
Year 3	4, 8 and 6	2, 5 and 3
Year 4	7, 9, 11 and 12	4, 8 and 6
Year 5	All times tables to 12 x 12 checked, practised thoroughly and applied	
Year 6		

Please note from the National Curriculum that for the end of Year 4 children are expected: 'to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12'.

Statutory national online Times Tables tests will be completed by all Year 4 children in the Summer term.

Extra-curricular Activities

Clubs are due to start over the next week or two. You will have been sent a sign-up link via email on Wednesday. The end date for sign up for some clubs was earlier on today but there are still some open for sign up. Please refer to the previous email for the appropriate links.

Below is a timetable of clubs that will be running:

Day	Name	Year Group	Provider	When	Location	Time	Cost	Start Date
Mon	Gymnastics	Year 5 - 6	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime	Large Hall	12.35 - 1.15	Invoice parents	09/09/2024
	Badminton	Year 2	Miss Lole	After school	Large Hall	3.20-4.20	n/a	07/10/2024
	French	Year 1 and 2	Mrs Ellefredt	After school	TBC	3.20-4.05	Invoice parents	09/09/2024
	Dance	Year 5 & 6	Miss Batchelor	After school	Small Hall	3.20-4.20	n/a	16/09/2024
	Boys Football *	Year 5 and 6	Mr Hartopp	After school	Outside	3.20-4.20	n/a	09/09/2024
Tues	KS1 Choir	Years 1 and 2	Miss Purcell	Lunchtime	Small Hall	12.30-1.00	n/a	10/09/2024
	Tennis	Years 3 and 4	Spencer Park Tennis Coaches	Lunchtime	Large Hall	12.15-12.45	Invoice parents	10/09/2024
	Punjabi	Year 1 - 6	Mrs Bains	After school	Class 1/2M	3.25 - 4.15	Invoice parents	10/09/2024
	Multi Sports	Year 3	Miss Lole	After school	Outside	3.20-4.20pm	n/a	24/09/2024
	Girls Football *	Year 5 and 6	Mr R Gould & Mr Gardner	After school	Outside	3.20 - 4.20	n/a	10/09/2024
	Taekwondo	Letting	Heart of England Taekwondo Club	Evening	Whole Hall	5.00 - 6.00	Invoice parents	
Weds	Choir	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6	Miss Watson/Mrs Moffat/ Mrs Wallis	Lunchtime	Large Hall	12.45 - 1.15	n/a	TBC
	Coding	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Jam Coding	After school	4S	3.20-4.20	Invoice parents	11/09/2024
	Punjabi	Years 1 - 6	Mrs Bains	After school	Class 1S	3.25 - 4.15	Invoice parents	11/09/2024
	Cookery Club	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Bayleaf Cookery School	After school	Staffroom	3.25 - 4.25	Invoice parents	11/09/2024
	Dance	Letting	Leivers Dance	After school	Large Hall	3.20 - 8.30	Invoice parents	
Thurs	Gymnastics	Year 3 and 4	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime	Large Hall	12.15 - 12.55	Invoice parents	05/09/2024
	Orchestra	Years 4, 5 & 6	Miss Rees Mrs Rushfirth	Lunchtime	Music Room	12.40 - 1.10	n/a	12/09/2024
	German lessons	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6	Mrs Ellefredt	Lunchtime	Library	12.45 - 1.15	Invoice parents	12/09/2024
	Gardening Club*	Year 5	Mrs Dixon and Mrs Beyer	Afterschool	Outside	3.20 - 4.00	n/a	12/09/2024
	Kids with Bricks	Year 3	Miss Hardwick	Afterschool	Imagineerium	3.20-4.20	Invoice parents	12/09/2024
	Athletics	Year 5 & 6	Mrs Matthews & Miss Lole	Afterschool	Whole Hall	3.20 - 4.20	n/a	26/09/2024
Fri	Gymnastics	Years 1 & 2	Flyte Gymnastics	Lunchtime	Large Hall	12.20 - 1.00	Invoice parents	06/09/2024
	Netball	Year 5 & 6	Miss Lole	Afterschool	Outside	3.20-4.20	n/a	27/09/2024
	Football	Years 2, 3 and 4	DF Sports	Afterschool	Outside	3.20 - 4.20	book online	06/09/2024
* Trials will be taking place upto half term. After half term the club will be open for those selected for the team.								
* Gardening club will finish on 24th October.								

Gardening Club has now been opened up to Year 4's also, an email has been sent to Year 4 parents this afternoon with a sign-up link. We will continue to inform parents of any new clubs that are arranged throughout the academic year.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

This process is now open. Please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions and follow the instructions on how to apply. Please note the closing date for applications is **31st October 2024**.

Rising 5 Admissions for September 2025

Applications are now open for any children due to start school in September 2025 (date of birth between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021). Please visit www.coventry.gov.uk/schooladmissions and follow the instructions on how to apply. **Applications must be made by 15th January 2025**.

Parking

Can I kindly remind parents that when dropping off at the start of the day or picking up your child/children at the end of the day and parking kerbside to switch your engines off. It is very unpleasant for the families who are waiting on foot and the whole environment, when car engines are left running unnecessarily. It is also an offence in law under Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Rule 123 of The Highway Code. We also need to remind parents to please park considerately around the school. We have already received a complaint about dangerous parking at pick up time. There is a letter attached from West Midlands Police with regards to safe parking.

Smoking on site

We would like to remind everyone that we do not allow smoking or vaping anywhere on or near our school site.

Bikes and Scooters: A reminder that both children and parents must dismount their bikes and scooters at the school gates and push them whilst on site. This ruling applies to any time of the day. Thank you for your co-operation.

Dogs on Site: A kindly reminder that dogs are not permitted on school site in line with Coventry City Council's ruling. This is also includes carrying dogs on to the school site. The only exception to this policy is assistance dogs. Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Ferguson

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Head Teacher

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