

INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER

We are pleased to be able to provide information about some exciting changes to our curriculum offer and some logistical alterations for next year. With Covid restrictions unlikely to be in place for the start of the next academic year, we now have the freedom to re-implement or adapt some of the daily routines for school. Please read all of the information contained carefully.



Equipment for school

With the cost of living rising rapidly, we are pleased to inform you that all school equipment required for September will be provided by the school. This means that children will no longer need a pencil case or equipment supplied from home and these will not be allowed in classrooms. Children in KS1 will have equipment provided on desks and children in Key Stage 2 will all be given a pencil case containing all the equipment required for learning. Children in Key stage 1 will only require a reading folder, lunch box and water bottle, with PE kits to be left in school in a drawstring bag. Space in classrooms and corridors is very limited and we are no longer allowing large bags in Key Stage 1, as these are unnecessary and take up space which could be better used. Please use book bags only. Children in Key Stage 2 may bring a small rucksack containing their lunch, reading materials and water bottle. PE kits should be left in school in a drawstring bag. No other equipment is required. As a reminder, children are not allowed mobile phones on the school site.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform is an important part of helping our learners to feel part of the school community. We would like to thank parents for supporting with this and remind you of a few details to help when you are shopping for uniform in the summer. Although logoed uniform is available through Goodies, this is not a requirement, and alternative versions of the school jumper (excluding the logo) can be purchased in supermarkets. Plain jumpers need to be royal blue. Shoes should be black and plain in design. No boots or shoes with large heels should be worn to school. Children should not wear jewellery, except for watches. Children who wear earring should only wear plain studs and need to remove these for sports lessons (including swimming). Hairbands or accessories be plain and should match the school colours.



ATTENDANCE / DROP OFF

From September, attendance will be monitored closely. Pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school. Schools can only authorise leave of absence in exceptional circumstances. Children should arrive at school on time. Our registers close at 08.50 and so all children should be in school by 08.45.

Drop off points for all children will remain the same with parents dropping either to the playground or classroom doors. We have found that this has helped the school day start promptly and children are more settled.

Following advice from the road safety team, we are now insisting that children arriving by bike or scooter wear a helmet to ensure their safety as they travel to and from school.

Curriculum



PPA (Teachers planning, preparation and assessment time)

We have adapted the way that teachers' release time will be covered in the next academic year. These sessions will now be delivered over an afternoon session, split into 2 halves. We are pleased to announce that one session will be a sports lesson led by our sports coach Mrs Dutton, with the second session being a music lesson delivered by Theater Arts UK. For children across Key Stage 2, all pupils will have a weekly Ukulele lesson starting at the end of September. Children in Key Stage 1 will take part in a vocal and percussion session. (Further details to follow.)

All pupils in Reception will have this period of time taught by Mrs Potter, where the focus will be on outdoor learning.

These changes are provide a greater breadth of learning and are a fantastic opportunity for all.

LANGUAGES

Due to changes in the timetabling, we have made the decision to alter the language offered across Key Stage 2 to ensure that it is a high quality session delivered a member of staff with a second language. With this in mind, we will be introducing Japanese for one year to all Key Stage 2 pupils. This will be delivered in 2 X 15 minute sessions a week by Yoko Walker, with the class teacher supporting the session. This is a really exciting opportunity for our pupils and we are thrilled to be able to offer sessions that will teach basic language skills and cultural understanding using resources provided by The Japan Foundation in London.



PHONICS / EARLY READING

From September children across Key Stage 1 will be delivered daily phonics sessions from a new scheme. We have chosen to work with Twinkl Phonics as we feel that the scheme fits with the school ethos and provides a modern approach to delivering these early reading session to our youngest learners. You will notice a change in the style of books sent home and as the year progresses we will be rolling out a parent app which will provide you with additional text via an online library. Further information will follow in September alongside a workshop to support parents.

LEARNING THEMES

All staff have been working hard to review and refresh their learning themes for the coming academic year. As a parent, you may not notice any changes. However, it may be that something that has historically happened in a year group has been altered or moved. We have been looking at the pathway each child takes through JYS and making sure that the experiences and lessons we offer are fit for purpose, meet the needs of our current learners and are relevant to today's modern society. We are excited to continue to develop what we offer at JYS to provide the very best opportunities for your children.

