



Stockingate, South Kirkby, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF9 3DP

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Headteacher: Mr Adam Potter

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Monday 8th April 2024

Summer Term Welcome Back – Important Messages

Dear families,

Welcome back, I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter. The days are longer, and spring is certainly now in the air – we just need the rain to disappear! As usual, I will be sharing information throughout the week, including a calendar of events for the Summer 1 half-term. Please read this information carefully.

School Start Time Reminder

A polite reminder that our **FREE** breakfast club does not start until **8:10am**. Please sign up for this on the app. Doors open at **8:45am** and slightly earlier if it is raining. Children have **between 8:45am and 9am** to arrive at school, which allows time for drop-offs at other schools.

Doors and gates close at 9am. If children arrive between 9am and 9:10am, they will receive a late mark. If children arrive after 9:10am, it is recorded as an unauthorised absence which will negatively impact their attendance. Please ensure all children arrive at school before 9am every morning.

Breakfast Club Reminder

I have banned a few children from breakfast club recently due to their poor and often disruptive behaviour. This has unfortunately caused upset among some families, however I must remind all families that this is a totally free service and I do not think it is unreasonable for families to work with school in unity to reinforce our behaviour expectations. Quite simply – if children are polite, respectful and demonstrate our school values and rules at breakfast club, they can of course attend. If they do not do this, they will not be allowed to attend.

Important Message About Behaviour & Report Card Trial

Behaviour at our school is good. The majority of children are polite, respectful, kind and hardworking individuals who are an absolute delight to see every day. This has been ratified again and again by my own self-evaluation of the school, monitoring by school leaders and validation by external reviews such as Ofsted and our annual review.

ALL children at some point have a 'blip', a bad day or even a bad week where things go wrong, and that is of course absolutely fine – I am fully understanding, as are my entire staff, that 'kids are kids' and making mistakes and getting it wrong is a big part of growing up. We have a clear set of school values, rules and policies shared with all children and stakeholders so that when things go well, we praise and reward, but when things go wrong, we act in a predictable and fair way, with appropriate consequences put in place when necessary. We also have several children who have reasonable adjustments to these rules and policies to ensure they can be as successful as possible at school.

However, there is currently a small percentage of our school population who sadly repeatedly think they can do what they want, when they want, and treat staff and peers with extreme disrespect, often acting in a way to purposely cause disruption. Considering this and **for these children only**, we have trialled a 'Behaviour Report Card' in Year 6, which we will slowly be rolling out across other year groups during the summer term.

Children on a behaviour report card will need to earn a set number of points, which can be achieved by demonstrating positive school behaviour, to then attend a reward event, trip or workshop in school. The premise behind this is that they will of course be allowed to attend the nice things that we do as a school but only if their behaviour is consistently acceptable. It is really important that this is seen as a final opportunity to



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demonstrate positive behaviour rather than a consequence, with the consequence being missing out on an event if behaviour does not improve.

You will be contacted individually to discuss this further if your child requires a report card. I will compile another letter with more information once this has been further trialled and refined.

After School Clubs & Events Calendar

There are no after school clubs running this week. Some after school clubs will be changing. I will be sending a letter this week outlining our free after-school club offer for the Summer Term so please watch out for it.

I appreciate there is a lot of information in this letter so thank you for reading through it all. I would like to thank you in advance for your support with the matters raised in this letter. Please keep a look out for further communications this week.

Mr Adam Potter
Headteacher