



Larkspur

Community Primary School

30 August 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer

Key Reminders

We hope everyone has had a wonderful summer break and are looking forward to welcoming children back to school on Tuesday 3rd September. Here are a few key reminders:

Breakfast Club - Our FREE Breakfast Club funded by Greggs will continue to be available for all children who arrive between 8am and 8.20am at the main entrance. There is no need to book in advance. Children enjoy a choice of breakfast food, drinks and fun activities.

Prompt start - If not attending Breakfast Club, gates open at 8.35am and children should be present ready to line up when the bell rings at 8.45am. **We encourage all children to be on time so as not to miss the important start to the school day.** If your child is going to be late, please contact the school office by telephone to let us know the reason and your expected time of arrival.

Bikes and scooters – Our Key Stage 1 bike shed has been removed therefore all bikes and scooters should be placed in the bike shed on the Key Stage 2 yard.

Absence - We encourage children to attend school every day however if your child is going to absent due to illness, please contact the office by telephone between 8.00am and 8.45am. If we do not hear from you on the first day of absence this does cause us concern so, please do get in touch. Failure to contact school will mean we will need to undertake a home visit. **Holidays in term time are not authorised** however if your child has an appointment or needs to request time off from school please come to the office and complete a leave of absence form.

School cannot authorise term time holidays and new DfE guidance on School Attendance Penalty Notices came into effect from 19th August 2024 which includes a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions (5 days) within a rolling 10 school week period, increase to the penalty notice amount and a limited number of penalty notices per parent before prosecution, will be considered.

End of day - Pupils will be dismissed at the end of the school day at 3.15pm. Children in Years 5 and 6 can leave without a parent or guardian if parent permission has been given in advance (a form will come out for you to complete). Due to low numbers, we will not be continuing Childcare Club. Information regarding extracurricular clubs will be shared next week.

PE kit and PE days – Pupils will come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days going forward. Details of PE days will be shared next week. For safety, children should not wear jewellery for school. If newly pierced, small plain studs can be worn but pupils must be able to remove them themselves for PE and outdoor learning.

Uniform - Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform from September. This consists of a white polo shirt, royal blue jumper or cardigan and grey trousers or skirt. Children should wear **all black school shoes or trainers**. Book bags (£6.50) and clear water bottles (£1.50) can be purchased from the school office. Please note that water bottles should be clear and should not contain juice, just still water. Should you need support with school uniform please come and see us.

Mrs K Anglesea, Headteacher

Larkspur Community Primary School, Beacon Lough East, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE9 6SS

Tel: 0191 477 3993

Web: www.larkspurprimary.co.uk

Email: larkspurcommunityprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

School meals - Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 ALL receive Universal Free School Meals and we encourage them to have one. Those in Years 3-6 who are not eligible for Means Tested Free School Meals need to pay for any meals taken. The cost we pay for a school meal has increased to **£2.85 per day/£14.25 per week**. Please ensure dinner money is paid in advance in a clearly labelled envelope.

If you believe your child may be eligible for Means Tested Free School Meals please complete the application form at <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals>. Our [new menu can be found on our website](#) and offers a hot meal, vegetarian alternative, jacket potato or deli choice every day.

Children can also choose to bring a healthy packed lunch. This must not contain fizzy drinks or sweets.

Meet The Teacher

During week 2 you will be invited into school towards the end of the day to meet your child's new teacher, see their new classroom, find out what the year ahead entails and ask any questions you may have. We will get these dates to you as soon as possible. Mrs Anglesea will also be joining these sessions and is looking forward to seeing you there.

Communication

As Mrs Anglesea mentioned communication is vitally important. We will always try to give you advanced notice of events and regular updates about school. Please check your emails regularly. We will also be launching a new Larkspur Facebook page. Details to follow.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 2 nd September 2024	INSET Day
Tuesday 3 rd September 2024	Pupils return to school
Monday 14 th October 2024	School photographs
28 th – 1 st November 2024	October half term holiday
Monday 4 th November	INSET Day

If you have any queries at all, please contact the school office when open between 8am and 4.30pm on school days.

Your sincerely

Mrs Shuker
School Administrator