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5th September 2024

Welcome back!

If you would like this document translated, please [visit this website](#).

Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a nice summer break and we are excited to see all the pupils back at school for what I am sure will be an exciting year ahead.

If you are reading this letter electronically, please be aware that we have sent paper copies home as well which contain data sheets specific to your child. Please make sure that you also check the paper copies.

Data collection

We have sent home a data collection sheet which contains the information that we hold about your child or young person. Please check that this remains accurate and note any changes. Please pay particular attention to the emergency contacts section. We require at least 3 contacts to be listed here. Please then sign and return the form to school.

School Calendar

We have sent home a new school calendar with the key dates and activities for this term. Please note that due to the availability of external trainers for compulsory training, we have had to change the date of the October inset day. This will now be held on Thursday 3rd October. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

We are excited to be including a number of additional curriculum activities this term including Roald Dahl Day, International day of democracy (where our school council representatives will be chosen), national fitness day and the launch of our new daily mile initiative, we will be hosting events for the 'worlds biggest coffee morning', celebrating harvest festivals and learning about diversity and community during Black History month. A focus on mental health awareness and recycling week ends the term. It's definitely going to be busy!

Home School Agreement and Attendance

We would like to say a big thank you to all our families for supporting your children and young people to attend school and engage so well with their learning. We know that this reflects the value our families place on learning in school every day. We are looking forward to continuing to work together, to support

best attendance and learning. At Briarwood, we want and expect our pupils to attend school every day, unless they are really not well enough to, or there is another very good reason for their absence which is agreed. We believe that children who attend regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education.

Please remember that we are here to help in any way we can. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance that you wish to discuss with us, please contact your child's teacher or Head of School in the first instance.

You may be aware that the Government have changed the expectations on attendance and as such we have updated our Attendance Policy and Home – School agreement. We have included both of these in this pack. Please read and sign the Home – School agreement and be aware of the procedures around reporting and requesting absences.

New Uniform Provider

Unfortunately, because we are a small school and don't enforce a uniform policy, our previous uniform provider was unable to continue providing uniform for us or keep anything in stock. We have therefore transferred to a new provider. You can order uniform at <https://myclothing.com/collections/briarwood-school-29362>

Coffee Mornings

Each school will be holding a welcome back coffee morning in the next couple of weeks. Please look out for these dates, it will be lovely to see our families after the summer break and welcome our new families to Briarwood.

SeeSaw

We will continue to use SeeSaw to send information home including letters and photos and videos of the fantastic work the pupils are doing. It is also a very quick and easy way to send a message to your class teacher. If you are a new family, a log in will be sent home soon. If any families need any support with logging in or reactivating accounts, please get in touch with your teacher or school admin.

Curriculum Information

Each teacher will be sending home a copy of this terms topics and the class timetables by Friday 13th September. This will also be stuck into pages of your child or young person's home – school diary for you to refer to. Individual targets and learning plans will be sent home a couple of weeks after this to give us time to ensure we reflect on any changes over the summer and set new targets based on accurate information.

Arbor Parent Pay and Dinner Money

Briarwood uses Arbor to manage its information database. Parents are also able to access information about their children, permissions and consents, pay for trips and school meals etc. Once you have received your Arbor username and password you will be able to access Arbor using an app or their

website. If you would like to use this facility, and you have not been sent a log in, please reach out to your child or young persons head of school. More information about this can be found on our website <https://www.briarwoodschoo.org.uk/page/?title=Arbor+parent+pay&pid=40>

As always, we are truly grateful for the support we receive from families and look forward to continuing to work with you this academic year.

Yours sincerely,



Nicolle Deighton
Executive Headteacher