



Tuesday 4th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely summer break – we certainly did have some very warm and sunny weather.

It has been great to welcome the children back this morning. They are well settled into their new classes and have attended a whole school assembly this morning. We discussed how we intend to make this a happy and successful year and talked through ten 'top tips' for this. Can your child remember and tell you about any of these?

It is wonderful to report that we have had no major building works this summer! I am sure you will have seen the new palisade fence along Staplehurst Road which looks much smarter and, importantly, improves security. We aim to replace our fencing all the way around the school on a rolling programme. Those of you who arrived at the Harbury Road entrance will have seen that we have had some ground works carried out. This was to address some damp issues we had along one side of the infant area. Our school kitchen has been painted and as always, the school has had a deep clean.

The children have been reminded about keeping the school tidy and in particular, to take their packed lunch boxes home at the end of each day. We would be grateful for your support in reminding your child to do this.

At the start of this new academic year, please be advised of the following reminders:

- Please ensure that important messages, such as those relating to your children's attendance, including at after-school clubs and any medical issues are communicated to the school office. The best way to do this is via email (office@barrowhedges.com). Sometimes children want to pass on verbal messages about such things but we do need to hear from parents directly.
- All of your child's belongings need to be named please. Their PE kit should remain in school at all times, going home for a wash at half term. Earrings should not be worn to school.
- We ask that if you have not sent your child into school with the items listed in my end of year letter, that you please do so this week: a box of tissues, a glue stick and from Year 3 upwards, a named pencil case with the appropriate stationery items.

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HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON



- If your child is unable to attend school then please leave a message on the school answer phone by 8.30am. Alternatively, you may email the school at the aforementioned address. Term time holidays are unauthorised as per our Attendance Policy.

As your children have moved to a new Year Group, please find below confirmation of the collection points:

Year 1 will be dismissed from their classrooms, please wait by your child's gate.

Year 2 will be dismissed from the area outside Robin class, please hang back a little to allow space for children to be safely dismissed.

Year 3 and Walnut and Lime classes (Year 4) will be dismissed from their classrooms, please wait in the playground opposite the classroom doors. It is helpful if you would move right up standing along the length of the playground equipment as this frees up space on the main playground where the climbing frame and shelters are.

Maple (Year 4) and Year 5 will walk down to the central staircase to be dismissed; please try not to crowd the area by this staircase so children can be dismissed safely.

Year 6: In our experience, the majority of Year 6 children begin to walk home alone. We do require written permission for this. All children with written permission will be accompanied on to the top playground by their teacher before being dismissed. We know some of you choose to collect your child, or have younger siblings to collect. In these cases, your Year 6 child will come to find you by their sibling's class. Please agree a meeting point with your child. Children without siblings will wait with their teachers on the top playground to be collected by you.

As in previous years, I would like to invite you to our **Parent Information Meetings**. Following positive feedback from last year, we will be presenting these in phases to minimise repetition for parents. These will all be held in the main hall.

Year 5/6 – Monday 10th September 2018 – 3.30pm

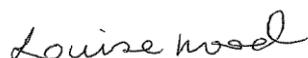
Year 3/4 – Tuesday 11th September 2018 – 3.30pm

Year 1/2 – Thursday 13th September 2018 – 3.30pm

Please be advised that children will be looked after by other teachers in the Studio Hall. We always send home copies of the slides and will ensure relevant information is put onto the website afterwards. There will be information about Year 4's Hooke Court Residential at the end of the Year 3/4 meeting and information about Year 5's trip to France at the end of the Year 5/6 meeting, The Year 6 Residential is introduced to parents at a later date in the Spring Term along with information about SATs.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome back to all the children, parents, staff and governors as we start another academic year. As always, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff should you have any questions or queries.

Kind regards



Mrs Louise Wood
Headteacher