



George White Junior School
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ALL DIFFERENT, ALL EQUAL, ALL LEARNING

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Dear Parent/carers,

Welcome Back

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year 2023-24. I hope this email finds you and your family well and you have had a lovely summer.

Over the summer, we have been busy in school having had some of our school windows replaced, this has been much needed work. You will be able to see from the playground our new windows from the Year 3 classroom to the end of the library. We are really pleased with the work that has been carried out, making the school look so much brighter. These windows alone cost over £24,000! This is a huge ongoing lengthy project which we are delighted to have been able to begin.

Teaching staff returned to work on Friday where they took part in phonics Read Write Inc training. This was a hugely informative day enabling all staff to continue to deliver high quality phonics and reading lessons across the school. Yesterday staff were back in school again completing our annual safeguarding training and this morning our teaching staff are spending the morning taking part in dyslexia and dyscalculia training.

From tomorrow, to support Mousehold infant and Nursery School with their adjusted new opening hours, we will be opening our school gates at 8:30am. Children will be supervised on the playground by staff from 8:30am until the bell rings and classroom doors open at 8:40am. Our register will be taken at 8:50am, this is to ensure both Mousehold and George White Schools are meeting the government expectation of a 32.5 hour school week.

Tomorrow in our whole school welcome back assembly we are excited to be officially launching our new 4 school values, these are:

- **Be Kind**
- **Be Confident**
- **Be Honest**
- **Be Respectful**

We are running a whole school new values competition (please see attached poster). We are inviting as many children as possible to get creative at home to design a picture, poster or logo to go with one or more of our new school values. We are asking for children who wish to enter to hand their finished design(s) to Mrs Waller in Year 5 on or before **Friday 22nd September**. Our school councilors will then decide on the winning design for each value later this month.



We are part of...

Improving outcomes
Increasing life-chances

To develop better communication and home school partnerships, we are running half termly parent forum meetings. This is an opportunity for any parents to meet with senior leaders to find out more about the developments and progress the school is making, ask any questions or offer any suggestions and ideas. The dates for these meetings are listed below on the diary dates for this term.

In addition to half termly parent forum meetings we are also running monthly Friday afternoon open classrooms. This is an opportunity for parents to spend time in your child's classroom, look at your child's books, find out more about what your child is learning and speak to the class teacher to ask any questions you may have. These sessions will run from 3:15-3:50pm and we hope to see as many parents as possible.

Finally, to support our development of a whole school culture of reading for pleasure, we are running half termly parent morning read sessions. These will run from 8:40-9:00am in your child's classroom. These sessions are an opportunity for you to share and read a book with your child before they start their English lesson at 9am. Again, we hope to see as many parents as possible.

Please see below diary dates for this term:

Wednesday 6 th September	Children return to school from 8:30am
Thursday 7 th September	Year 6 residential information meeting for parents – 3:30pm in the school hall
Monday 11 th September	Welcome to Year 5 parents information meeting – 3:30pm in the hall
Tuesday 12 th September	Welcome to Year 4 parents information meeting – 3:30pm in the hall
Wednesday 13 th September	Welcome to Year 6 parents information evening – 3:30pm in the hall
Friday 15 th September	Year 6 residential trip to Bawdsey Manor departs PM
Monday 18 th September	Year 6 residential trip to Bawdsey Manor returns to school PM
Monday 25 th September	Annual RSHE consultation sent out to all parents
Friday 29 th September	Open classrooms for all year groups from 3:15pm
Tuesday 3 rd October	Parent morning read in classrooms for all year groups from 8:40-9:00am
Wednesday 4 th October	Parents forum meeting with senior leers – 2:30pm in the school hall
Monday 16 th October	Aspirations Week – whole school event
Friday 20 th October	Open classrooms for all year groups from 3:15pm
23 rd – 27 th October	Half Term
Monday 30 th October	Parents evening – 3:30pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday 1 st November	Parents evening – 3:30pm – 7pm
Friday 10 th November	Open classrooms for all year groups from 3:15pm
Tuesday 14 th November	Parent morning read in classrooms for all year groups from 8:40-9:00am
Wednesday 15 th November	Parents forum meeting with senior leaders – 2:30pm in the school hall
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need
Monday 20 th November	Year 3 sing assembly to parents – 2:45pm in the school hall
Tuesday 21 st November	Year 6 sing assembly to parents – 2:45pm in the school hall
Monday 27 th November	Year 4 sing assembly to parents – 2:45pm in the school hall
Tuesday 28 th November	Year 5 sing assembly to parents – 2:45pm in the school hall
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas jumper day
Tuesday 12 th December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas school disco – 3:20-4:30pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas school disco – 3:20-4:30pm
Thursday 14 th December	School Christmas Fair – 3:20pm
Wednesday 20 th December	End of term 3:20pm
Thursday 4 th January	Children return to school 8:30am

We cannot wait to welcome all the children and our families, both new and existing, back to school tomorrow. We are looking forward to seeing you all once again.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Petchey and the George White Team