

## Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Chief Executive Officer of the ECM Trust: Mrs G Foster-Wilson Headteacher: Mrs C Lawson Deputy Headteacher: Mrs L Longden Assistant Headteachers: Miss C McGinnes and Mr A Fidment School Business Manager: Mrs C Turner

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

## Welcome back!

Welcome back after the lovely summer holidays! The WPSPS team hope that you have all had a good holiday and have managed to spend some much-needed time with your children. If you are new to WPSPS, welcome to the team!

We want to get off to a strong start this year, following some key successes last academic year! The children certainly looked prepared this morning on the drive way, looking smart in their new school uniforms, wearing big smiles on their faces, raring to go! By 9am we were all in the swing of things, working hard at our learning, wanting to impress our new staff teams!

Our staff team is largely the same for this academic year, but we do warmly welcome Miss S Groves to the teaching team, who will be teaching in our Year 3 Team SG, in place of Miss Baxter who is now on her maternity leave. More to come in the weekly Newsletter, but Miss Baxter's little bundle has safely arrived and the family are doing well! Miss S Rowson will also be going off on maternity leave this next week, to welcome her baby boy in to the world. Again, we will keep you posted on any further baby news!

In addition to this news, over the holidays, our Parent Support Advisor, Mrs Carol Hitchens, has got married! This is wonderful news for her and her family and I know you will all join me in wishing them lots of congratulations. As such, Mrs Hitchens will now be known as Mrs Mason!

This year, our school will continue to be working on the following priorities to continue to develop our school:

- To further develop subject leadership to enhance leaders' effectiveness of measuring the impact of their curriculum area(s)
- To effectively implement an Oracy framework that ensures pupils have the language to articulate learning across the curriculum
- To develop the teaching, learning and assessment in reading, writing and maths, to continue to close any gaps
- To review the curriculum for 'Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural' learning, to ensure that the sequence of teaching is as effective as it can be
- To continue to narrow the attendance gap between Disadvantaged children and non-Disadvantaged children.

We will also be continuing to work hard on promoting our behaviour policy, centred on positive relationships and respect. We will be further developing the outdoors areas for children's breaks and lunch times too. We will also be continuing to work hard on developing our inclusive approach to supporting children with SEND needs, including the provision for those with social and emotional barriers to learning.

As always, our Parental Group will be working hard to fund raise and put on special events for our children. Your support with this will be invaluable. Should you wish to get involved in the work of our parental group and contribute to school life, then please catch Mrs Mason (formerly Mrs Hitchens) on the school drive at drop off / collection times so she can liaise with the group and plan this year's meetings.



Please also watch out for dates and times of different parental workshops, whether they be coffee mornings, opportunities for adult learning, Webster Stratton style parenting courses, SEND 'Thinking Differently' courses or opportunities to learn more about what your child will be focusing on in lesson time. The dates for the autumn term will be with you shortly! All of the dates of INSETs and holidays can be found on our school website, using the following link and the holidays follow Barnsley BMBC's holidays: <a href="https://www.wombwellparkstreet.co.uk/">https://www.wombwellparkstreet.co.uk/</a>

Don't forget to check the Team's Blog Pages out too, which staff aim to update at least every two weeks, with information about what your child has been doing in school.

We will continue this year with our weekly 'WPSPS Incredible News!' Newsletters, which will be sent to you, as well as out celebratory posters of weekly Golden Book winners and 'Readers of the Week'! We will also continue with our bi-annual questionnaires for parents, where you can communicate the things we do well and any areas for improvement. We really do value positive parental relationships at WPSPS, so our door is always open, should you need anything.

As a school we continue to have a real push on reading, as we really value the impact this skill can have in all areas of the curriculum and a child's life. We request that you listen to your child each evening and make a note of this in their diary. We have a new reward system coming in to play from this September, called 'StarBooks'!

Please make sure you read the 'Testing Periods' letter which will be sent out later this week. This has important information about the national tests which will be completed by specific year groups at specific times, in line with Government guidance. Your child's attendance is crucial all of the time, but especially at these times as they will have chance to show case their progress and achievements and the results really matter to the school too, who work hard to ensure optimum progress.

I have just a few safeguarding reminders and things to note from September:

- Our Trust's new Safeguarding Policy states that under 16s cannot pick up from EYFS and KS1 classes. So, it is essential that if you wish an older child to pick a younger sibling up, for example, a disclaimer for this should be completed at the main school Office before-hand. Please ensure this is done ASAP, even if you have completed one beforehand as the form has been revised and all children will require a new one to be completed.
- Children should NOT be on the school field at drop off and collection times as there are no school staff there present. Similarly, for the same reason, no children should be on the climbing frame trail. In EYFS, we ask that no equipment is played with before the start of school and no equipment climbed on – staff will have already set this up for learning for the day.
- Dogs are not allowed on school site at all.
- WPSPS is a non-smoking site, which also includes e-cigarettes too, so please follow this rule.
- Adults on school site should always adhere to school instruction and model appropriate relationships and communication for the children to follow. This is parent to child, parent to staff and parent to parent – thank you for your co-operation in this matter. Aggressive behaviours will simply not be tolerated and this includes shouting and swearing. Thankfully this is very rare, but please abide by this for the greater good of the school community.
- Online Safety we will continue to send out our monthly online safety posters to support you at home. If your child experiences any issues online when at home eg mobile / tablet etc, then you should notify your child's class teacher, e-Safeguarding Leads (Mrs L Firth and Mr J Davison) or a member of the Senior Leadership Team and we will help support and manage the situation with you.

I wish all of the school community a positive and prosperous year and look forward to seeing all children and parents over the coming days!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Lawson Headteacher

