

Happy New Year to all our children and families and welcome back to our academy in 2019. We have, as always, an action packed term to look forward to. Staff have been planning their topics and arranging trips and visits so that our children are provided with a wealth of different experiences. We look forward to working with you again this year and ensuring our children have the best possible learning environment that we can give them. Should you have any enquiries please make an appointment to see the class teacher in the first instance or ask to see a member of the Leadership Team there after. Thank you.

Uniform.

It is the policy of the academy that all children wear uniform when attending the academy or an academy-organised event within or outside normal academy hours. Here is a list of the items needed for academy uniform.

Navy cardigan or jumper

Pale blue shirt, blouse or polo shirt. **No summer dresses please at this time of year.**

Black or grey trousers/skirt/pinafore (no jogging bottoms, leggings or jeans).

Plain ankle or knee-high socks or plain tights (please avoid bright colours).

Hair accessories need to be in keeping with academy colours and no large items/bows.

Stop an Accident !!!!



We would like to remind everyone, that it is illegal to park on the zig zag lines and to double park. If you park in this irresponsible way, you are potentially putting the safety of our children at risk. Dropping children off needs to be done in a safe and legal way. Each morning there are incidences of double parking, unsafe driving practices and speeding outside the school. To ensure the safety of our children and staff please park in designated parking bays and not on foot paths. Please note traffic enforcement will be in the area and this may lead to a fine and a penalty notice.

E-safety

As we have just had Christmas and children may have received the gifts of iPads or mobile phones, we just remind you of the steps you can take to keep your child safe online. Please visit this site for lots of useful information.



<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>.

Some children walk home on their own, and for this reason mobile phones may be carried for safety purposes. These should be given to the class teacher upon entering school, so that they can be kept safe in a locked cupboard. Please be aware we can not take responsibility for any items brought into the academy. No SMART watches should be worn in the academy.

Marvellous Me

All parents who have signed up to 'Marvellous Me', we hope you are enjoying the increased communication and celebration about your child's learning. If anyone has not yet signed up, just ask at the main office and they will let you know how to get on board. We would like as many parents as possible to get notifications of their child's progress.



Flu prevention

On Tuesday 22nd January 2019 there will be a flu vaccine catch up session at Brambles Primary Academy for any students from Reception class to Year 5 who missed the vaccine. The session will run from 3.00pm onwards.

Bikes and scooters and dogs



Please can we remind parents that for health and safety reasons NO bikes or scooters should be ridden inside the school gates and dogs should not be brought into school.

Introduction of Breakfast club

Brambles have secured funding from the DfE to expand breakfast provision between January 2018 and March 2020. We aim to provide bagels for all children (and occasionally parents), each morning, when the children enter their classrooms. This will ensure that all children have the opportunity for a breakfast before they start their learning. This free initiative will start from Monday and will run each day of the week from nursery through to Year 6.

Please note, breakfast bagels is in addition and we will still be running the early bird club at a cost of 50p per day, which will commence at 8am. This is for any parents/carers needing a child care element at the start of each day.

Attendance is a priority

Can we remind parents that we aren't at liberty to authorise holidays in term time, they can only be granted in exceptional circumstances. The academy strongly discourages leave of absence during term time (as outlined in the School Attendance Policy) due to the impact any absence has on a child's education and social progress. The school attendance policy clearly states that should leave of absence be taken without prior authorisation, a Penalty Notice may be issued by the Local Authority. Please be aware of when our term times are and try to book your holidays accordingly. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Packed lunches

Given the obesity epidemic we are facing currently in the UK, we are doing our very best across the academy to promote healthy lifestyles and healthy eating. Therefore, we ask for your support in encouraging our children to make the correct food choices. We are currently experiencing a high number of children who are bringing in a wide variety of chocolate treats for lunch instead of a balanced meal. Can we remind parents that packed lunches should include a sandwich, a healthy snack and fruit and chocolate should be avoided. Please can you ensure that fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not brought into school, as these are not suitable. We will be monitoring packed lunches and ask for your co-operation.

Stay and Play

These sessions are a fantastic opportunity for parents, younger siblings and staff to share some time together, in an informal setting. We organise visitors for these sessions and hope to see many of you there. Stay and play sessions will start again this Friday 11th January, starting at 8.50 am and will finish for 10.30am. Places will be on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to book yourself and your child into this session, please contact the main office asap. Sessions will run weekly.