

# **ALDER COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Achievement through Commitment*

**Headteacher: Mr P Mandelstam**

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4 September 2024

Dear Parents,

## **RETURN TO SCHOOL REMINDERS**

It has been lovely to have the children back in school today, looking smart and ready to learn!

As there is a lot to remember about the return to school, we put together some key reminders and sent them out to you last week, together with some updates via email yesterday. We thought it would be helpful to give you a paper copy of all this information today, our first day back.

### **The Bridge**

We have just received information that the bridge adjacent to School has not been completed over the holiday period. The preparatory work has been done, but Highways are still awaiting receipt of the bridge itself. We will continue to let you know any further updates as we receive them.

### **Heating Work**

Over the holiday, we have been having work done to replace the boiler and heating system in our Reception and Key Stage 1 building. This work will be continuing through into September and therefore we have contractors, scaffolding etc on site.

The main impact which this will have is on Year 1, who until further notice, will in the morning need to enter their classrooms via the Lower School Hall, rather than the external doors. At the end of the day they will also be released from this point, following Year 2, at 3.15pm. It would help ease congestion if Year 2 parents could be ready to collect at 3.10pm and Year 1 parents wait until the majority of those children have been collected before moving in front of the Lower School Hall.

Once your children are handed over, please ensure that they remain with you and do not try to access the work area - we will also be speaking to them about staying safe.

We will have additional staff around at the beginning and end of the day of the first week to make sure everyone knows what to do and stays safe.

Thank you for your co-operation.

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**ALDER COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Northway ~ Sedgley ~ Dudley ~ West Midlands ~ DY3 3PS*

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Website: [www.alder.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.alder.dudley.sch.uk)

## Uniform

- Children must return in their full autumn/winter uniform not the Summer Term option; therefore, **no shorts or summer dresses**.
- Socks should be plain, matching grey, black or white. They should not have sports logos or branding.
- Shoes should not be trainers or sports branded with logos. Please also ensure that you have not purchased shoes with flashing lights as these are both clearly not accepted in our policy. If you are in any doubt as to whether something is acceptable, please contact myself via the School Office.
- Children moving from Year 2 to 3 should also have a normal tie, rather than the elasticated version. These can be purchased from School and there is still time to get in some practice at tying them!
- Ear-rings should be studs only; these must be small, plain and discrete and children should only wear one pair. If your child has had their ears pierced over the holidays, they should be able to remove them for PE lessons; if not, please provide them with tape in order for them to cover them.
- Any hair accessories should also be small and discrete and suitable for keeping hair back; not worn as a fashion accessory.

Our School Uniform and Property Guidance is available on our website.

## Water bottles

As has always been the case, water bottles for use in the classroom **must be clear or transparent** and should contain **only water**, unless agreed with myself for medical reasons. If your child brings an additional drink for lunch, this can be any other bottle of their choice and juice/squash. Again, if you are unsure, I am happy to advise. We still have some House Team water bottles which were tested by our pupils to ensure their robustness; these are £3.50 and available to order.

## Mobile Phones

Please remember that children are not allowed to bring any sort of mobile phone into school for any reason.

## Watches

Children may wear a simple analogue or digital watch to enable them to tell the time. They must not bring in smartwatches, Fitbits or any item which has connectivity with the internet.

## PE Kits

Please ensure that your child returns to school with the correct PE Kit; including indoor and outdoor shoes in a labelled bag. There are no PE lessons taking place until Week 2, so that gives you the chance to get PE Kits assembled and into school before Monday 9 September.

## Dinner Money

Please remember that if your child has dinners from our kitchen, these should be paid for in advance using the +Pay system. We ask that you regularly review your accounts, as last year we had quite a few parents unaware of amounts owed and a great deal of time and effort was spent chasing payments. We do have a No Debt Policy which is enforced after two weeks of meals not being paid for.

A reminder that children moving from Year 2 to 3 will no longer receive the government's Universal Free School meals. This means that unless you have already applied for benefits related Free School Meals you will need to pay for your child's school lunch. If you are unsure if you qualify or your circumstances have changed, more information can be found at

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>

**Inhalers/Medications**

If your child requires any medication, particularly inhalers, please ensure that you bring these to school straight away and give them to an adult. Children requiring inhalers should also have a spacer with these, and both items should be clearly labelled. **Please do not send medication with your child.**

**Contact Details**

If any of your contact details or arrangements for end of day have changed, please ensure that you pass this information on to the School Office as soon as possible. We should have at least two people who are contactable by mobile phone in case of emergencies and a reminder that we will only release your child to those on your end of day arrangements list. Please also check that this information is correct to avoid delays at the end of the school day.

Yours sincerely

*Joanne Randall*

Joanne Randall  
**Assistant Headteacher**