

OLDHAM COUNCIL



Limehurst Community Primary School
Whitebank Road
Oldham
OL8 3JQ
Telephone: 0161 770 3140
Mobile No: 07494403422
info@limehurst.oldham.sch.uk
www.limehurst.oldham.sch.uk
26/09/2023

Head teacher
Mr M Roberts

Dear Parent/carers,

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER ONE, 2023

Hello and welcome.

I take this opportunity to formally welcome all children, old and new, to Limehurst for the new school year 2023/24. Undoubtedly the forthcoming year will demand hard work and dedication and we hope to have some fun and memorable experiences along the way!

I also wish to reiterate our gratitude for the fantastic support received last year from the families that we serve. We are really pleased to report that the return to school this term has been smooth and successful. Below are some of our key messages and information that will support this term's arrangements.

Parents' Evening.

A parents' consultation event has been scheduled for Thursday 9th November, for pupils in Reception through to Year 6. It is our intention to hold this event at school, in person and face-to-face.

We will circulate further information (how to book etc.) closer to the day but please save the date.

Query or concern re-your child's education at Limehurst.

If you have a query or concern, please do not hesitate to contact the school at the earliest possible opportunity. Most queries/concerns can be resolved quickly once all the relevant information has been gathered.

If you do have a query or concern about the education that we provide, please discuss the matter with your child's class teacher in the first instance. All teachers work hard to ensure each child is happy at school, and are making timely progress; as such, teachers naturally want to know if there is a concern so that action can be taken before it affects a child's educational progress.

Teaching staff are available before and after school for parents to raise any queries or concerns **but please note, from 8.35am onward, teachers will be in their classroom and UNAVAILABLE.** Please attend school before this time to raise a query/concern. **For a more formal discussion, please contact the school office to arrange a specific appointment** (either in person or via telephone call back).



Proud to be
part of the
Oldham team



In addition, please remember that for each part of school we have a Unit Leader who may also be able to help:

Mrs. Roberts (Assistant Head teacher)
Miss. Simpson (KS1 Unit Lead)
Mrs. Wright (Assistant Head teacher)
Mrs. Atherton (UKS2 Unit Lead)

Nursery and Reception
Infants (classes 4, 5 and 6)
Lower Juniors (classes 7, 8 and 9)
Upper Juniors (classes 10, 11 and 12)

Senior Leadership

Mr. Wilson (Associate Head teacher & Deputy Safeguarding Lead) and Mrs. Taylor (SENCo & Designated Safeguarding Lead) will be stationed at the junior entry door from 8.40am to 9am if you need to discuss general pastoral care. In addition, a **senior member of staff** will be available at the main school doors from 9.05am until 9.25am for any other enquiry.

Mrs. Taylor oversees provision for Special Educational Needs. If you feel your child requires individual specific support, please arrange a **formal appointment**.

For a formal discussion please contact the school office to arrange a specific appointment (either in person or via telephone). **Naturally, if you feel a query or concern has not been resolved, please make an appointment (via the school office) to speak with me.**

Safeguarding update

At Limehurst we want to make sure that all the children in our care are kept safe and feel secure. This letter provides parents/carers with an update on school procedures. Please let us know if you think we may be able improve our provision in any way. A summary of the school's Safeguarding Policy including Child Protection can be found on the school website.

The people who have responsibility for Safeguarding & Child Protection are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL); Mrs L. Taylor (SENCo).
Deputy Safeguarding Lead; Mr I Wilson (Associate Head teacher).

Governors with responsibility for Safeguarding; Mr G Shuttleworth (Local Authority Governor and Vice Chair of Governors) and Mrs S Longley (Co-opted Governor).

Please note: When in school we have a duty of care towards your child and in certain situations it may be necessary to contact Social Care Services if we believe it necessary and appropriate.

Medical Information

We remind parents and carers that school is only permitted to administer prescribed medicines. The full policy for medicines in school is laid out in the School Medical Policy but please note:

'Only named medicines clearly marked with the child's name and class will be accepted into school and only if it is necessary for a child to take four doses daily. Medicines will be kept safely in the school office. All medicine must be in the original package and have the strength and dosage required.'

Once at school, if a child is physically sick, we will phone home to arrange for the child to be collected. If your child complains of being 'poorly' or is injured during the school day, we may phone home to explain the circumstances and then ask a parent/carer to make the decision whether to collect their child early or leave their child at school. **Our assessments are made by qualified first aiders who judge symptoms, injuries and most importantly, if a child is distressed.**



Proud to be
part of the
Oldham team



Pupils with asthma- reminder.

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Parents/carers need to ensure that the school is provided with a reliever inhaler if their child suffers with asthma. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent/carer. 'Older' pupils with asthma are encouraged to 'look after' their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent/carer, doctor or asthma nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough to do so. Reliever inhalers for 'younger' children will be retained safely in the pupil's classroom.

Attendance reminder.

Leave of absence including holidays in term time.

Pupil attendance is mandatory. School has been instructed to 'follow up' on any and every pupil absence. The Local Authority (in liaison with school) will once again be issuing warning notices and fixed penalty fines where applicable, as directed by the Department for Education.

All evidence shows that pupils achieve better in school when they have good attendance. This is the reason that we encourage the maximum possible learning time in school. We ask parents to apply six weeks in advance for a leave of absence, including a holiday in term-time. Parents should fill in a leave of absence request form; this is available from the school's reception. Parents will be informed as soon as possible if a request can be authorised.

Careful consideration will be given to each request for a leave of absence. However, government legislation means that it is unlikely that any leave of absence, including term-time holidays, can be authorised by school. School works closely with the local authority who will issue penalty notice fines for unauthorised absences, including unauthorised term-time holidays.

Penalty Notice Fines are £120 per parent/carer per child when paid within 28 days or reduced to £60 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. If the fine is not paid, the parent/carer will be prosecuted. If your child is absent from school, please inform the school office at the earliest possible opportunity to ensure our records up-to-date and accurate.

General reminders.

School opening/ start times.

The gate to the **rear school yard** will be open at **8.10am** each day. The **school office** is open at **8.15am** each day.

Breakfast club: Breakfast club is open at 8.20am with last entry at 8.40am.

Start-of-school day.

School will start at the times illustrated below. School entry points remain unchanged from September. In addition, parents with multiple children (excluding nursery) will be asked to 'drop off' the youngest child **FIRST**, followed by next youngest and so on. These details have been circulated previously. Pupils in the nursery will now be the last cohort admitted to school.

Year Group	Start time	Finish time
Nursery	8.55am (last entry, 9.00am)	3.10pm
Reception	8.45am (last entry, 8.55am)	3.15pm

Year Group	Start time	Finish time
Year 1	8.45am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.15pm
Year 2	8.45am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.15pm

If you have a child in Reception and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 or Year 2), please collect your KS1 child from the school hall first and then go to the Reception exit point afterwards. Key Stage 1 children who are not collected on time (from the hall) will be escorted to the main school entry door (by the school office) by 3.20pm.



Proud to be
part of the
Oldham team



Year Group	Start time	Finish time
Year 3	8.50am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.20pm
Year 4	8.50am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.20pm
Year 5	8.50am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.20pm
Year 6	8.50am (last entry, 9.05am)	3.20pm

PLEASE BE ON TIME. Good punctuality is essential to your child's early Reading/ Phonics progress at school. This is how we start our school day.

Afterschool club (wrap around care, Monday- Thursday): Finish time at 5.15pm. Please note, there has been no price increase this September.

School Gateway

If you have not yet downloaded the 'School Gateway' communication app, we would advise you to download as soon as possible. School is no longer using 'Parent Mail' and the gateway will be the new main method of communication between school and parents. You can download the app by searching 'School Gateway' in your smartphones App Store.

Please note that the school telephone number has now changed to 0161 770 7220. If you save this number as 'Limehurst school' in your mobile phone, it will now come up as the school's name if we telephone you.

End of the first half term (autumn term one)- Friday 20th October 2023

This will be the last day of autumn term one. School will close on this day at the times stated above.

Beginning of the second half term (autumn term two)- Monday 30th October 2023

School will open for the second autumn half term on this day. Again, at the start times previously illustrated.

Events/trips after half term

LKS2 (Year 3 & 4) - Chester Zoo trip, Thursday 2nd November

KS1 (Year 1 & 2) – 'The Wrong Reindeer' Pantomime @ Gallery Oldham, Monday 18th December

Nursery/Reception – 'The Wrong Reindeer' Pantomime @ Gallery Oldham, Tuesday 19th December

Half term food vouchers- a message from Oldham Council

*'Following Government guidance on this year's Household Support Fund budget, more resources are being put toward helping disabled and carer residents with their fuel costs. **This means that we have had to scale back food voucher support over the October and February half-terms**, with a more generous cover for the Christmas and Easter periods being planned instead. We appreciate your support in making sure that parents know about the change, however, if parents are experiencing hardship, they should visit <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/wecanhelp> to find guidance on a range of issues such as the cost of bills and food. They can also ring us on the Oldham Helpline for emergency support: 0161 770 7007, open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.'*

Let's work together.

Yours sincerely,

M Roberts

Mark Roberts
Head teacher



Proud to be
part of the
Oldham team

