



STIMPSON  
- AVENUE -  
ACADEMY

# Principal Informer

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## **A new term– A new chapter**

Welcome to the first addition of Principal Informer. This newsletter will be published every fortnight and it will contain key information about school events and also celebrate all that we do well in and out of school.

I could not resist publishing a photograph of all of the children looking very smart and very proud in their new school uniform. The uniform certainly sets the tone of the high expectations and aspirations that we have of the children at Stimpson Academy. The children themselves said in assembly that they felt 'proud,' 'excited,' and 'smart' in the uniform. Thank you all as collectively and individually the children look great. We have stressed to the children that we expect them always to look smart and that the tie is mandatory other than in Foundation Stage.

On Monday you received the 'red sheet' listing key diary dates for the school year, please make a note of these at home. We will give more detail on Principal Informer of the events as they near. Also, by today you will have received a curriculum overview and newsletter detailing the exciting learning that will be taking place in your child's class and how you can support at home.

During the week I have enjoyed leading assemblies and meeting the children in their class. The vibe around school is extremely positive and there is a clear sense of everyone working together. On the training days, prior to the start of term, all staff took part in a visioning exercise to begin to agree and share what we are aiming for as a school. We centred our discussion around three key principles, that of ensuring that our children become confident individuals, responsible citizens and independent learners. Over the course of this academic year we will engage in consultation with all stakeholders, most notably with the children, to ensure that everyone shares the vision of the school and works together to achieve outstanding outcomes. We will start this discussion with parents at our first Parent Forum meeting on **16th October at 2pm.**

The term has got off to a great start; we are all heartened by everyone's positive attitude towards the future of our school. As a school and you as parents have a tenacious desire to ensure that each child achieves their potential and shines in all areas of school life. We look forward to nurturing the gifts and talents of all of the children to ensure that they become the best that they can be. We look forward to seeing you in school on **1st October at 3.15pm** when you will be able to informally meet your child's class teacher and have a look round the school at what is going on in each class.

*Darren Smith*

**Principal**

## Uniform expectations

The children look brilliant in their new uniforms. Thank you for all of the effort and investment that you have made. We will now make every effort to maintain this high standard. We expect all children to wear the uniform. The uniform comprises of the navy v neck jumper with logo and tie (the tie is not expected in Nursery or Reception.) Children are expected to wear black shoes/ sandals that securely cover toes. **Trainers are not permitted.** Please also note that children are not permitted to wear nail varnish or hoop or novelty earrings. Children are also expected to independently remove earrings for PE. On health and safety grounds the children are not allowed to tape earrings for PE. From term two any child who is unable to remove earring from newly pierced ears will be expected to be supervised by parents during PE times. We would therefore request that if you wish to have your child's ear pierced that you do so in the summer break.

### Learning Log meeting for parents/ carers of children in Year 5&6

We would like to invite parents with children in Year 5&6 to attend a meeting on **16th September at 3.15pm** in the school hall for the launch of 'Learning Logs.' Learning Logs are a key part of the homework expectations in Years 5&6 and it is important for parents to understand how they can support their child at home with them. We are very excited about the launching Learning Logs at Stimpson Avenue and we look forward to the meeting.

### France residential meeting for parents in Year 5– 23rd September at 3.15 in the school hall.

We are planning to take the children in Year 5 on a 5 day residential to France next October, when the children are in Year 6. This is a very exciting opportunity for the children to take part in and we are hoping that all children in the year group will go. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

If you have a safeguarding concern then please inform, without delay, Mr Smith (Principal, Designated Person) or in his absence Mrs Berlingieri.

## Home/ School Partnership Books

You will have received your child's H/S Partnership Books in their book bag. The idea is that this book is used to communicate general issues to school in an efficient way. The books will be checked daily in Reception/ Key Stage 1 and weekly in Key Stage 2. It is expected that children will read at least 3 times a week. When you have read with your child please record that you have in the book and sign it. Your child's class teacher will sign the book at the end of each week. Next week we will attach to the H/S Partnership book the homework expectations for each year group.

### Collecting your child at the end of the school day

We need to ensure that all children are collected by a responsible, known adult. As many staff are new, handing over the children is taking a little longer at present. Also, one afternoon per week, teachers are statutorily allowed non contact time to plan, prepare and assess children's work (PPA.) On this occasion the class will be covered by a combination of Higher Level Teaching Assistants known to the children and a sports coach, either Steve or Dan. On this occasion either the HLTA or sports coach will see the children out. PPA time will happen for Nursery/ Reception– Monday, Years 5&6– Tuesday, Years 1&2 Thursday, Years 4&5-Friday.

### Celebration Assembly– Friday morning 9am

We are looking forward to celebrating all that the children do in school. Each week the class teacher will nominate a child from their class to receive the 'Principal's Award for Excellence.' Children will be awarded this accolade if they have excelled in the work and or in their attitude to their work and behaviour. If your child is to receive this award, parent's and carers will receive a letter the week before informing them and inviting them to join in the assembly. Also, the Principal will select one child from every year group once per term who have been a role model for others and display the Stimpson Avenue values. These children will be invited for tea and cake in the Principal's office. If your child is to receive this award you will again be contacted by letter.

### Leave during term time– IMPORTANT

**Parents/ Carers are politely advised that leave of absence request during term time will not be authorised.** Unauthorised attendance may result in a penalty notice of £60 per child, per parent if a child has unauthorised leave. Children must be in school at all times if they are to reach their potential. Last year overall attendance at our school was 92%, compared to 96% nationally. We must improve on this. It is also not expected that a child will be taken out of school for routine medical, dental appointments etc. This too will be classed as unauthorised leave.