

We are settling into the routine of a new 'normal' now and I continue to be so impressed with the way the children have adapted. I hope you agree that the new approach of children going straight into school on their arrival has worked really well this week, so we will continue to do this. My thanks again to all my staff who have made this happen. Please remember that the school start time has not changed, it's either 8.40 or 8.55am.

MEDICAL

NHS 'Flu Immunisation

The Gloucestershire 'Flu Immunisation team will be offering the usual 'flu vaccination programme in schools during the autumn term. The vaccine will be delivered in the form of a nasal spray, but we don't have dates for this as yet. The programme will be different this year as the healthcare team will have to follow strict COVID-19 guidelines and so it will take place over two school days. As soon as we receive the dates, we will let you know. However, they have asked us to send the consent forms home in advance to help in their planning and they would prefer you to respond online by going to <https://immsconsentforms.glos-care.nhs.uk/GCSFluVac/FluConsent/#!/Home> However, if your **child is asthmatic**, they have asked that you **return the paper consent form**. If you are completing the paper form, please return it to your **child's class teacher** or the **school office by next Friday 25th September**.

School Nursing Team

The School Nursing Team hold regular sessions to check children's vision, height and weight etc - this usually takes place when the children are in Reception and Year Six. However, last year a number of children were absent for the vision test, so the team will be coming into school on **Tuesday 29th September** to test the vision of those children who missed it – they are now in Year One. As permission has already been obtained, this is just for your information.

LEARNING

Reading

It is lovely to see Key Stage One children enjoying our new Reading Planet books. Please encourage your child to read as often as possible at home and remember to sign their reading record to show they have read at least 3 times each week. This is just as important in Key Stage Two as it is for our younger children – reading regularly makes a huge difference to their learning.

Year Six Transfer to Secondary School

Year Six children will have received a letter regarding their transfer to secondary school. This is a reminder that the deadline for applications is **31st October 2020**. Go to www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transferssecondaryschool for further information. If you need any help with the application, please let me know. The Local Authority has asked us to say that secondary schools are unlikely to be able to offer onsite tours/open events at the moment.

GENERAL

Parentpay

There are still outstanding debts on Parentpay, mostly from the last academic year. Please can parents check their account and clear any debt. Those children who have moved up from **Year 2 into Year 3 no longer automatically receive universal free school meals**, and if your child is having a baguette lunch, but is not entitled to free school

Holidays During Term Time

Whilst I realise absence through illness is unavoidable, I do have concerns about children missing school through holidays and the impact this makes on their learning. Children also need to be present for important assessments throughout the year – **there are particularly important tests for Year Six and Year Two in May and Year One in June. I cannot, therefore, authorise any requests for family holidays except in exceptional circumstances.**

meals, they will be charged at the same price as a school meal. If you are a Year 3 parent and haven't already received a letter with your child's unique Parentpay code and log-in, please contact the school office.

Special Thank You from Dursley Out of School Residents



Cecil

Gordon

Gary

Cecil, Gordon and Gary from the Out of School Club have asked me to say a special thank you to Lou and Jude Mee for looking after them during lockdown and over the Summer break.

School Association

Virtual 50/50 Bucket – don't forget to sign up for membership of the Virtual 50/50 Bucket. This works very much like the "100 Club" we have at the school fairs and is a great way to support us, whilst having a flutter! To join in, please complete and sign the subscription form which will enter you into a monthly draw. All participants must be parents, guardians or staff at Dursley C of E Primary Academy or Treetops Nursery. The winner will receive 50% of the membership fee taken that month and the remainder will be used to help fund equipment and resources for school. Thank you for your support and good luck!!

Paul Daniels

Together we shine brightly

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