



Newsletter 16th July 2021

Well, the time has come for us to finish for the summer break and for me to say my official goodbyes as your headteacher and move onto my new adventure.

I would like to say a huge thank you.

Firstly, for your continual support during this last academic year around the pandemic, the changes, and restrictions this has brought and daily challenges we have had to face around bubble closures and isolation. You have supported us along the way, and this has made our job so much easier.

Thank you also for the support you have shown me as the headteacher of The Mill Academy during my 7 years in post. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have this role. You have supported my dream and my vision for the pupils at the school and with the support of all the staff and yourselves made the school a very special place.

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I will continue to be in touch with the school in my new role and look forward to hearing about all the new successes that it has. The Mill Academy is a very special place.

Mrs Copley and Mrs Holling

Thank you to our two Foundation Stage teachers who have been with us for this academic year. Your hard work and commitment to the school and the pupils has been recognised. You have worked incredibly hard during your time with us, and we wish you well and hope to see you again.

Moving on and September

Moving forward, the Government has provided schools with operational guidance for Stage 4 of the road map out of the restrictions and this will be the guide that we will use to develop the new risk assessment and plans for September.

Our priority now is to move carefully into the autumn term ensuring that the steps that we take into the 'new normal' of school are done cautiously to ensure that we can keep all our staff and pupils safe and keep our doors open for learning.

Given the infection rates at this time we have decided to start the new term with some of the current systems in place for the first two weeks of the new term. At the start of term, we will be reviewing the latest guidance and will be transitioning to our 'new normal' from week three.

Please be assured that we will continue to have the highest regard for your child's health and safety at all times along with that of our staff. Therefore, please continue to follow all the same procedures that we have in place now for the start of the new term and further guidance will be provided as stated once the children are back in school.

School Lunch price increase

We have kept our school meal charges as low as possible for the last few years but unfortunately from 01/09/2021 the cost per meal for children will rise to £2.25 per day (£11.25 per week). All children from Year 3 onwards will be charged unless they are entitled to a Free school meal. If you think your child is eligible for free school meals log on to barnsley.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals and fill in the application form on the Barnsley Council web site.

After school club provision

Throughout the next academic year, we are going to be offering a range of after school clubs for children to participate in each half term, examples being Art, Drama, Football and many more! Details will follow the first week back regarding booking children onto these exciting new clubs – watch this space!

*Please note that all after school provision will commence week 2 (week beginning Monday 13th September)

September school start date

School will re-open on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 8.45am.

From Mrs Chambers and myself and all the staff, we wish you all a very happy and safe summer.

Yours sincerely



Mrs T Gulliver
Deputy Chief Executive
St Mary's Academy Trust.