

Ref JG/LC/AH/Corr.parents

11 September 2017

Dear parents/carers,

Please let me start by welcoming you all back to school after the summer holidays. I hope you all managed to spend some quality time with family and friends.

It is with great pleasure that I join you as your new Headteacher. I have been in teaching for 20 years and have been a Headteacher for 6 of those, working most recently in Reading and Handsworth Wood. I am also a mum to a 16 year old boy, so I understand the challenges that parenting can bring.

Over the coming weeks we will be making some changes to the day-to-day running of Bloxwich Academy – Primary, and we would ask for your support with these. Our main aim is to allow parents to feel more involved with the school, and able to support us in working with your children. We look forward to seeing you to participate in open events, curriculum walks, assemblies and performances, and informal coffee mornings.

I would like start by drawing your attention to the following:

1. There is a new procedure for dropping off children in years 3-6 in the morning, and collecting them at the end of the school day. At 8:45am, the school gates will open and children can be brought into the playground by their parents. The bell will ring at 8:50am and children will line up and go inside. The gates will remain open until 9:00am, when they will be closed. If your child arrives after the gates are closed, they must report to the school office.

The register will be closed at 9:05am. After this time children will receive a late mark.

Children will be brought back onto the playground at 3:10pm, after which the gates will be opened for parents / carers to collect their children promptly at the end of the school day at 3:15pm. Please ensure that the class teacher, or learning support assistant, is aware that you are picking up your child and are leaving the school premises.

The reason that we are doing this is to safeguard your children and ensure an adult is there to collect them after school. It also means you are able to touch base with teachers at the end of the day should you need to.

2. The children all looked very smart when they came into school this week. Thank you for sticking to our school uniform policy. Please can I just draw your attention to a couple of areas:

- Children are allowed to wear a black cardigan, if they would prefer this to a jumper.
  - Shoes should be plain black. Trainers are permitted but should be plain black with no identifying marks.
  - Please can I ask that if children wear any kind of decoration in their hair, that it is a small bow or band, and in the school colours of black or yellow. Excessively large, or brightly coloured, bows will not be permitted.
  - Hair should be neat and, if long, tied back. Extreme hairstyles, mohicans, tram lines or carvings are not allowed.
3. Should you have any concerns about your child, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance. If the issue is not resolved, or is serious, this may be escalated to the phase leader, Mrs McCormack (EYFS), Mrs Parkes (years 4, 5 and 6) or Mrs Lines (years 1, 2 and 3). If your concern still cannot be resolved, this can be further escalated to one of the Deputy Headteachers, Ms Coghlan or Ms Newsome, who will then decide if this is something that needs to involve Mrs Gray (Headteacher).

I hope that you will enjoy the coming term at Bloxwich Academy - Primary. I am sure that you can all feel the improvements in the quality of education we are providing, and we know that this year the academy will go from strength to strength.

If you have any concerns please do contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Thank you for the ongoing support in making Bloxwich Academy - Primary an outstanding place of learning.

Yours faithfully,



Joanne Gray  
Headteacher