



Take a look at our smart new Reception classroom

A wall and a fixed cupboard have been removed; the room has been redecorated and a new vinyl floor put down. This has created a really big, open space for all the children to access the different areas of learning.



There is now a beautiful woodland animal wall painting in the corridor between the Nursery and Reception rooms.





## Absence Procedure

When you know your child is off school ill please call and leave us a message. Then we know why your child is not in school.

When your child is not in school, the office staff will:

- send a text message to remind parents that school needs to know why your child is absent.
- make a phone call when they have not yet heard back from you.
- ask Mrs. Peake to make a home visit.

When you receive a text from school you can either reply to the text we have sent you OR just give us a ring.

## Contacting School

The school office is open from 8.30am.

Please leave a message on the answer phone before 8.30am. A member of staff will phone you back when necessary.

## New School Day

I am providing the information below following questions raised about the start of the new school day by a Key Stage 2 parent.

I appreciate we are all getting used to the new school day arrangements.

Should you have any further questions please do let me know.  
Miss. Watson

- Until this term, the official school hours were the school day started at 9.00am and finished at 3.00pm. Opening the doors at 8.45am was introduced after I arrived. This was originally introduced when covid measures were in place so it was easier to limit close contact when parents and children arrived and left school. 8.45am has never been the official start of the school day
- Mrs. Duerden, Mrs. Peake and Miss. Watson will still be on duty every morning in both the Key Stage 2 Yard and Football Yard from 8.45am to 9.00am to monitor the yard, deal with any parent queries and make sure the doors are open for the children to go in to to class at 8.55am
- All children are still provided with the option of having breakfast when they arrive at school in the morning. The first 10/15 minutes of the new school day still includes registration, settling in to class and eating breakfast. Greggs used to provide us with bread for breakfast, however we are now using the DfE Breakfast Club Scheme that provides breakfast everyday
- As you already know, we have increased the school hours as the DfE expect schools to be open for 32.5 hours per week and West Street was open for only 30 hours per week. There is no additional funding provided to schools for increasing their hours to meet this expectation of being open for 32.5 hours e.g. for paying additional hours for non-teaching staff. For example teaching assistants are still working the same number of hours as last academic year even though the school day is longer. This means we have fewer support staff in school at the same time than we had last year. We have prioritised having teaching assistants in class supporting children's teaching and learning. Therefore, opening from 8.45am is no longer possible
- In the summer term survey about the new school day, 69% of parents voted for the 9.00am start with 3.30pm finish. This was a clear majority
- I recognise that changes to school hours may cause difficulties for some working parents. I know that in the past, West Street had a Breakfast Club and After School Club. I will find out how many parents would be prepared to pay for a Breakfast and After School Club by sending out an electronic survey to find out interest. Then this feedback can be used to work out whether there is enough demand for setting up a paid for Breakfast Club and/or After School Club that will be financially viable. I will aim to get this survey out to parents during week commencing Monday 11th September



## Reminders

Help your child settle in to their Nursery and School routine by dropping off and picking them up on time

Make sure that all items of your child's school uniform, P.E. kit, outdoor clothes, book bag, water bottle and packed lunch bags are labelled with your child's name. Doing this will help us reunite your child with their belongings!

### Jewellery

- We follow Lancashire County Council guidelines about jewellery and ask that children wear no more than one pair of stud earrings
- Earrings must be removed for P.E. and swimming lessons – children must be able to remove their own earrings as staff are not allowed to do this
- When a child is unable to remove their own earrings then they should come to school without earrings in on P.E. and swimming days
- **No other jewellery is allowed to be worn for school. This is for your child's own safety.**

### School Council Elections

This Thursday will be our **School Council Election Day!** Children from Year 2/3/4/5/6 classes will be voting for two children in their class to represent them as School Councillors. The Election results will be announced in Friday's Celebration Assembly.

### Pendle In and Out of School Clothes Project

Need bigger uniform for your child? Then pop down to **Colne Market**. **Pendle In and Out of School Clothes** project is a pop up shop where you can get free school uniform and children's clothes. You can also drop off any clothes or uniform that you no longer need.



### WEST STREET BABY NEWS!



Congratulations to Mrs. Bayley Duerden and family on the safe arrival of baby Barney! Barney arrived just a few days after school finished for summer.

Congratulation to Mrs. Sabah Lohan and her husband on the arrival of baby Arie! Arie arrived 3 months early—both Mum and baby are doing well.

We are looking forward to meeting both baby boys later this term!

