

# Back to school information

## Welcome!

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your children back to school on Tuesday morning.

Please remember that the school day now has an earlier start. Doors will open from 8.40am and close at 8.50am. If your child arrives after 8.50am they will need to enter via the front office. The school day will end at 3.20pm.

We know that for some children the return to school can be an anxious time. At the end of last term teachers spent time with one another handing over information about children so that new teachers are aware of children's concerns and individual challenges. In the first days of term all teachers will be prioritising getting to know you and settling down activities.

## Uniform

At the end of the summer term, all the lost property from around the school site was brought together. The first photo is the pile of named uniform that we will be able to return to children next week. The second photo is all the items that have no name and that we have therefore sent to charity, will sell as second hand uniform, or have placed in the clothing bank.

Please remember to name every item of school uniform so that when your child leaves it on the playground, on the field, in the hall, the library or their middle area it can be returned to them.



When you are buying new school uniform for the coming year, please make sure that it meets the requirements of our uniform policy. Grey trousers, skirts, shorts, pinafores etc, white polo shirts or shirts, a red sweatshirt/cardigan (with the school logo – order from [totstoteams.com](http://totstoteams.com)) and plain black school shoes – no flashing lights!



## School lunches

If you wish your child to have a school lunch during the first week of term, please log in to ParentPay and book the meals before midnight on Thursday.

Owing to circumstances beyond our control, we have needed to make a change to the menu for the first day of term. Instead of the Tuesday menu, we will be serving the Monday menu instead. If you therefore wish to change your child's meal choice, you can log in to ParentPay and do so, as long as you do so before midnight on Thursday.

Please remember that unless you qualify for benefits related free school meals, you need to pay for meals for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 when you book them.

## Around Blake Care (ABC)

We are delighted that our wrap around provision is so popular. We have however received unprecedented demand for places in September. Please bear with Claire who is picking up requests at various points during the holidays – she will get back to you as soon as she can.

If you had previously booked a place for your child for September, but your circumstances have changed and you no longer require the space, please do let Claire know ([abc@blake.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:abc@blake.oxon.sch.uk)) as soon as possible, so that the place can be allocated to someone on the waiting list.

Also, if you have booked a place but you know that there will be occasions when the place will not be needed (play dates, visiting Grandparents etc), please do remember to let Claire know. This information not ensures that we keep your children safe, but also allows places to be offered for a one off session.

Just a reminder that invoices are issued monthly in arrears. If you plan to change your payment method, please let Claire know. There is a fine for late payment, so please do check your junk/spam folder for the invoice!

## Holidays and illness

As you return from summer breaks and look ahead to when you may next be able to have a few days away, please remember that holidays should not be planned for during term time. Absences during term time will be unauthorised unless your child is unwell, or has a medical appointment.

If your child is unwell, please remember to email or call the school office before 9am on every day of their absence. Please try to make dental and routine medical appointments for outside of the school day, if this is not possible and your child will be leaving school during the school day, please let the office and your child's class teacher know. Please collect children from the main front office.

### Autumn Term

**Term starts for all children on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

INSET day 1 – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

INSET day 2 – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**Children are in school for Term 1** from Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

The half-term break is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

INSET day 3 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

**Children are in school for Term 2** from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Weds 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Term will end at 1.30pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**Loving, learning and flourishing in community**