

AUTUMN TERM 1 BULLETIN

4th September 2020



Headteacher's Message

Welcome back after what feels like a lifetime since we saw some of you! Thank you so much for adapting to the daily changes- especially the drop off and collection periods. I appreciate that it is a challenge to stick to your allotted times...but we are doing it for a reason and it is how we can protect ourselves and each other.

The children and staff have been reunited this week and have focussed on building relationships and having some fun together. I am pleased to say that the children (as suspected) have shown remarkable resilience and are (in the main!) thrilled to be back in school.

Please pass on my thanks to the children for being so fantastic.

Miss Matthews

Contact: Head@willen.milton-keynes.sch.uk



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Dates for your diary:

7/9-11/9 — Early Years taster sessions commence	phone), 2pm onwards
14/9—Early Years First Day of School	14/10—Year 6 SATS information session (via video link)
18/9—School Council Elections	14/10—Harvest festival (collection of fried and tinned goods for the MK Foodbank)
24/9—Willen School Association (The WSA/PTA) Annual General Meeting (via Google Meet), 5.30pm	14/10 Y6 Evacuation Day
2/10— Fun Run (school fundraiser)	21/10—Hotdogs for Halloween (fundraiser)
7/10—Phonics Workshop for Parents/Carers of Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 children (via video link) 5.30pm	21/10 - last day of term
8/10—Early Years settling in catch up (via tele-	22/10 INSET day (school closed to all children)
	23/10 INSET day 9school closed to all children)
	2/11—Back to school

PARENTS/CARERS

Please be reminded that congregating outside of the school gates is not permitted under our new Covid-19 plans. Please walk and talk or pick up your phones instead!

Thank you.

Homework

We are making some exciting changes to our homework procedures over the coming 2 weeks. The children will therefore NOT have formal homework set until later this month. Reading books will be sent home from Monday 7th for home reading however. Thank you for your understanding.

Rucksacks

We are frequently being asked why rucksacks are no longer permitted in school. This is as a result of Covid-19 restrictions in place to protect school members from having to touch items that have moved from home to school. The images here will hopefully show the difference in terms of what a child's peg is capable of holding before items start to fall off and then require moving/touching. We do not have space for the children to have two pegs (as in photo 2!). Ruck sacks are not permitted and will be confiscated. Can't get a book bag? Please use a carrier bag instead as these lay flat in a child's tray. Thank you.



We are a NUT FREE school

Please remember to ensure that no nut products make their way into school via snacks or packed lunches.

WE HAVE PUPILS WITH SEVERE ALLERGIES and any mistake could be life threatening.



Late Arrivals to School

The table below explains why lateness is not acceptable on a regular basis. This also applies to late collections at the end of the day (just replace learning time lost with working time lost!). Thank you for your support in this. Matter.

Minutes late per day	Learning time lost in a year
5 minutes	3½ days
10 minutes	7 days
15 minutes	10 ½ days
20 minutes	14 days
30 minutes	21 days

Packed Lunch Boxes

Please be advised that some of our younger pupils are struggling to eat all of the lunch parents are kindly providing them.

For most children, a sandwich (or wrap or pasta salad etc.), a biscuit and a piece of fruit/veg is more than enough. You know your child! Please only send what you think they will be able to manage in the short time they have to eat. Thank you!

Curriculum Information for Parents

Would you like to know what your child is learning about this half term? Visit the class pages on our website to find out!

Our website is also full of other information too— including yearly Activity Passports, term dates for the rest of the year and our parent handbook.

willenprimary.com