



Queensgate Primary School

Newsletter 9.9.22



Welcome back to school

I hope that you have all had a safe and happy holiday and are looking forward to the new school year. The children have made a very positive start to the year; showing kindness to others and a thirst for learning! Here are some of our lovely Year 4 children enjoying using their personal sketchbooks in their Art lesson.



I would particularly like to welcome all the new children and families who have joined us this year. It has been a pleasure to see our new Reception children begin to settle into routines and start to make special friendships. Much of the information in this first newsletter is for our new families, but it will hopefully serve as a useful reminder for all families. Please note that whole school newsletters will be sent home via email on a Friday, every two weeks.

**KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SCHOOL AND FOLLOW US ON
TWITTER @QueensgatePS**

Our school values

We are committed to creating an environment where outstanding behaviour is at the heart of productive learning. Everyone is expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, to accept responsibility for their behaviour and encourage others to do the same. All staff work to a consistent behaviour policy which celebrates good behaviour. We encourage all pupils to take responsibility for their actions, and aim to develop self-respect and self-discipline.

Restorative approaches are at the heart of our ethos. Restorative practice is a term used to describe a way of being, an underpinning ethos, which enables us to build and maintain healthy **relationships**, resolve difficulties and repair harm when **relationships** breakdown.

You will no doubt hear your child talk about the **3Rs** at Queensgate, as this is central to our school ethos and behaviour policy. Our 3Rs are...

Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be Reflective



You might also hear your child talk about the Recognition Board in their classroom. When we notice that children are showing any of the 3Rs, their name/ picture is moved onto the Recognition Board.

Who can I speak to in school?

We pride ourselves on being a welcoming school with approachable staff that go the extra mile to engage with Queensgate families. I am normally at the front gate each morning and a member of staff is on the door at each of the pupil entrances.

If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher/s, they are usually available for a quick catch-up at the end of the school day after all the children have been collected. They are not available in the morning as they are working directly with the children from 8.45AM. Alternatively, you can ring or email school and the message will be passed onto your child's classteacher.

If you would like to speak in more detail about a specific matter to a member of the leadership team, then please ask to speak to Mr Knowles (KS2 Leader), Mrs Clough (KS1 Leader) or Miss Sutherland/ Ms White (EYFS Leaders). Mrs Lee (Deputy Headteacher), Mrs Rayner (Inclusion Manager) or myself can then be contacted if the matter is still not resolved.

Attendance

One of the most important ways that you can help your child enjoy and succeed at school is to ensure that they attend school every day. Regular attendance will help your child to develop friendships, confidence, give them the best chance to achieve their potential as well as making them an integral part of the Queensgate family.

In line with local authority guidelines, we **do not authorise holiday absence during school term time**, except in exceptional circumstances. If you require your child to have any time absent from school you are required to complete an **Absence Request Form** from the school office or on our website. If your child is unable to attend school, we request that you inform the school office by 9.30am at the latest. If we do not receive a message the office staff will contact you to ascertain your child's whereabouts. Any child that arrives late to school must be taken to the school office and signed in electronically.

Welcome meetings for parents/ carers

We would like to invite all parents/ carers into school for our annual Welcome meeting. This short meeting will be held in your child's classroom and it is a great way for parents/ carers to meet class teachers and find out about the routines, curriculum and expectations for your child. Children do not attend these meetings as they know their teachers/ classrooms well already and we would not have enough space for all the children plus all adults. These meetings will be held on **Wednesday 21st September**. The timings are staggered so that families with more than one child can attend multiple meetings. Please be prompt, as we do have to stick to these timings. All information will be shared on Seesaw following the meeting if you are not able to attend.

- **Year 5 and Year 6 at 5.00PM**
- **Year 3 and Year 4 at 5.25PM**
- **Year 1 and Year 2 at 5.50PM**
- **Reception and Class R at 6.15PM**
- **PTA AGM in the Hall 6.45PM- please join us to hear how you can contribute to the PTA**

Music lessons in school

If your child is in Y3 or above, they could have the opportunity to learn to play the flute, clarinet or saxophone during the school day. Mr Collins, from the Stockport music service, is a fantastic teacher and has the capacity to teach a few more of our children. If you would like further details, please see www.stockportmusicservice.org.uk and sign up.



Bramhall High School Open Evening

Please click here for details of this very popular event and instructions on how to sign up [2022 BHS Open Evening](#)

School uniform

Please ensure that your entire child's uniform is **labelled**. This is particularly helpful if an item goes missing. The lost property box is kept in the entrance area by the school office. Jewellery is not permitted, with the exception of a watch. In addition, if your child has pierced ears these must be small, plain studs that will be either removed or covered for PE. The wearing of nail varnish and make up is not permitted. Hair styles – very short/shaved hair or extreme hair styles are not permitted. Long hair must be tied back for safety reasons.

Home learning

All home learning tasks will be shared electronically on Seesaw each Friday from today (9.9.22). Any new children to the school will be issued with Seesaw login details in the coming days.

Safeguarding

Staff will soon learn the familiar faces of the adults who pick up the children at the end of the school day. If there are any changes to collection arrangements e.g. someone else is picking up your child, we must be informed by email admin@queensgate.stockport.sch.uk or phone. We will not allow anyone else to take your child home without your permission.

Health and safety reminders

- Children are not permitted to play on the **play trail** or in the school grounds before 8.45AM or after 3.15PM. There is no supervision from the staff at these times and the children should not be using these facilities. Your support with this matter will help us to keep the children safe.
- As we have a number of children with **severe nut allergies**, please ensure that any food brought into school is free of nuts i.e. no nutty cereal bars, nutella spread sandwiches. We also request any sweets with sticks e.g. lollipops are not sent into school for an event such as your child's birthday.
- If you have a child in **Year 5 or Year 6** and you would to give your permission for them to walk/ cycle to or from school without your supervision, please put this in writing in an email to the school office. We will not allow the children to do this without your written permission.

Important dates coming up

All upcoming dates are on the school website/ Calendar on www.queensgate.stockport.sch.uk

15.9.22: Y4 Birch Rivers fieldtrip

16.9.22: Y4 Ash Rivers fieldtrip

21.9.22: Welcome meetings in classrooms

- Year 5 and Year 6 at 5.00PM
- Year 3 and Year 4 at 5.25PM
- Year 1 and Year 2 at 5.50PM
- Reception and Class R at 6.15PM
- PTA AGM in the Hall 6.45PM

26.9.22: Start of the UK's Great Big Green Week – more details to follow

27.9.22: Year 3 trip to Beeston Castle

28.9.22: 9.00 – 10.00 Macmillan coffee morning in the Hall (cake donations gratefully received)

28.9.22: 5pm Workshop for all current Reception parents, "How to support your child's reading, writing and maths learning journey"

29.9.22: Bramhall High School Open evening (5.00- 8.00pm)

6.10.22: National poetry day

10.10.22: Year 6 trip to the Imperial War Museum

12.10.22: Flu vaccinations in school (details to follow)

19.10.22: 9.15- 10.45 Open morning for prospective Reception 2023 families

20.10.22: 2.30PM Parent partnership meeting in school

*** 21.10.22: School closes for half-term ***

31.10.22: School re-opens

After the very sad news yesterday, we have spent some time in classes and in assembly today reflecting on the death of Queen Elizabeth II and honouring her 70 years of service.

I hope that everyone has a lovely weekend. Expect lots of tired children after the first full week back!

If you have any queries or wish to discuss any school matters, I am available before and after-school most days.

Mrs Hitchcock
Headteacher