



The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary Academy

Somersby Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 9LT Tel: 926 2983
Email: office@goodshepherd.notts.sch.uk

Diary Dates

Headteacher Newsletter 1, 8th September 2023

September

12 th	Year 5 & 6 football club starts
13 th	Year 3 & 4 football club starts
14 th	Irish Dancing starts – 3.30-4.30pm in the school hall
15 th	PTA coffee morning – straight after school in the hall
22 nd	Celebration Assembly begins - Key Stage 2 – 2.45pm
18 th & 19 th	'Meet the Teacher' drop-in sessions – further information below

October

4 th	Year 1 to the National Justice Museum
5 th	Year 5 to the Space Centre – more information to follow
18 th	Parents' Evening – all classes
10 th	Y4 Egyptian Day – more information to follow
20 th	Last day of the half term – return to school on Monday 6 th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all. I hope you had a fun, and I'm sure busy, summer break. We have really missed the children over the holidays, and it is great to see them looking so smart ready to start the new academic year. The staff team are looking forward to getting stuck into 2023-24 and we have got lots of great things planned for the children over the next term and beyond.

Welcome to the new children and their families in our Nursery and Reception classes and also to Cassian, Lawrence, Matthew and Jayden who have joined us in Year 4. All our new children have settled into school so well these past two days and I'm sure they will be very happy here at The Good Shepherd. It will be a privilege to watch them flourish over the coming years.

I look forward to another successful year here at The Good Shepherd Academy.

Yours in partnership,

Celine Toner

Beginning and end of the school day – a few reminders

All children, excluding Nursery, should enter school via the main gate on Somersby Road. **Only Nursery children are permitted to enter via the small gate next to the staff car park.** Children from Year 2 upwards should come into the school playground by themselves in the morning.

Keeping the children safe is our priority and staff will only dismiss children to a known adult at the end of the school day. Therefore, if someone different is collecting your child, please ensure you inform us in good time – ideally via your child's organiser. As we begin the new school year, please be patient with staff at dismissal time as they are getting to know their new children and families.

Parking around school. Let us start this year as we mean to go on and park responsibly around school. Please, no parking on double yellow lines, zig-zags, on the corners of surrounding roads or over residents drives. It is not only dangerous but also affects our relationship with those who live around our school. Many thanks in anticipation of your support with this.

Staffing News

Many congratulations to Miss Smallwood who got married at The Good Shepherd Church over the summer holidays. Her new name is Mrs Shajpal (pronounced Satch-pal) which will take a little getting used to! Congratulations also to Miss Ryan who safely delivered of her new baby boy at the end of last term. Welcome to the world baby Leo 🤱

Meet the Teacher

For all classes, excluding Nursery, you can meet your child's teacher via an informal drop-in session between 3.30 and 4.30pm. Prior to this, you will receive the class newsletter via Arbor so that you can prepare any questions you may have about the term ahead.

Class	Date	Teachers
Reception	19 th September	Mrs Whittle, Miss Kendrick and Mrs Dickinson
Year 1	19 th September	Miss Clarke & Miss Baguley
Year 2	19 th September	Mrs Kaur & Miss Whitaker
Year 3	18 th September	Miss Aghoghogbe & Miss Atherton
Year 4	18 th September	Mrs Dougal & Miss Tomycz
Year 5	18 th September	Miss Shaw & Mrs Walker
Year 6	18 th September	Mrs Moore & Mr Barfield

Attendance and Punctuality Reminder

As we start this new school year can I remind you of the importance of arriving to school each day on time. The gates open at 8.45am and close promptly at 8.55am.

If your child is too unwell to come to school, please inform the office via the Arbor app by 9am at the latest. Attendance is closely monitored across school and you will be asked to provide evidence of any medical appointments. Holidays during term time are not permitted and any leave of absence is only authorised in exceptional circumstances. Thank you.

Reading Homework

One of our ongoing school priorities is to raise the profile of reading across school. This half term we will be focusing on developing positive reading habits and, as part of this, we will only be setting reading homework. We would like every child across school to read every night – preferably to a grown up and record this in their school organisers (which will be given out at the end of next week).

Uniform

One of the objectives in our Behaviour Curriculum is that we 'dress to impress' and take pride in our appearance and our uniform. To this end, please can you ensure children come to school each day in full school uniform (see attached sheet). Can I particularly draw your attention to PE kits as last year I noticed that this was beginning to slip. On PE days children should wear a white t-shirt or polo shirt (school logo or plain) with plain navy sports shorts. A navy tracksuit (plain or with school logo) is required on colder days and trainers should be predominantly black or white in colour.

PE days for this year are:

Reception	Friday
Year 1	Monday & Thursday
Year 2	Tuesday & Friday
Year 3	Wednesday & Thursday
Year 4	Monday & Wednesday
Year 5	Tuesday & Friday
Year 6	Wednesday & Thursday

Please note that 4MT have swimming on a Monday this term and should come to school in PE uniform along with their swimming kits. 4SD will start swimming after February half term, so will be doing usual PE lessons in school on a Monday.