

5th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone continues to be well and managed to enjoy the summer break albeit with a mixed bag of weather.

Staff have been busily preparing for the beginning of the Autumn Term and yesterday completed in-service training (INSET). It has been so good to see all the children returning in their smart uniforms, catching up with friends and looking forward to sharing their learning experiences in their new classrooms. If you have struggled to obtain any part of your child's uniform and need any help, please contact the School Office. We look forward to a successful first half term.

Premises

It was a busy summer for the premises team and contractors to work through maintenance schedules in the school buildings, upgrading facilities across school sites. These improvements will certainly make a difference in all our schools for both children and staff.

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach. We wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. I hope that this offers some reassurance.

Home School Agreement/ Parental Consents

It is very important that we hold the most up-to-date information on our school systems, so please can you take some time to log into your Arbor Parent Portal/App over the next couple of days to check both your own and your child's data, amending where necessary ensuring you have details of at least two contacts on your file in case of an emergency. All changes you make will automatically update the school. Once logged in you will notice that the 2023/24 Home School Agreement has been uploaded. Consents are to be completed for every child to enable them to have photos taken, watch PG films, access approved learning platforms etc. Please be aware that without consent your child will unfortunately not be able to participate in certain activities.

If you do not currently use the Arbor Parent Portal/App and would like to, please contact the School Office who will arrange login details to be sent to you. However, if you don't have internet access available to you the School Office can arrange for a paper version to be sent out for your completion. Please note, where we do not receive a response the system entry will automatically show as a 'NO CONSENT' as we must assume it is a no, until confirmed consent is received.

If you have any queries regarding the Home School Agreement/Parental Consents, please don't hesitate to contact the School Office.

Thank you for your continued support as the Autumn Term begins, we have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school today.

With all good wishes,

Adrian Massey and everyone in Bridge Schools