

The Early Bird



Issue 3: Friday 20th October 2023

Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught and you will overflow with thankfulness. Colossians 2:7

From the Headteacher.....

Dear parents/carers,

Staff have commented on what a joy it has been to see our parents in school this week, for our Autumn parents evening. Our families attendance was excellent. Your support and attendance makes a positive different to outcomes for your children. Our children are lucky to have you too, supporting them in this way. We know many parents work shifts so if you couldn't make the set evenings you are always welcome to attend at a different time.

We also wanted to thank you for your time in completing the questionnaires. Your praise and honest opinions are really important to us so that we can keep improving. We do read and act on these. If you couldn't attend parent evening there are some blank questionnaires if you do want to pick one up from the office and return by the end of next week.

We also look forward to our first ever St. John's fireworks event on Thursday. We still have some tickets available and there is an option to pay on the gate. Your wider friends and family are welcome too.

Finally we have one more week before half term is over. The half term has be a mixture of sadness and joy for our community. Our support for each other has been unmeasurable... thank you. When it arrives please enjoy the half term together where you can and keep reading and practising the Times Tables Rock Stars or Numbots. Pupils are back to school on

Tuesday 7th November.

Mrs SM Bowyer Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

- **October 2nd to 27th October we will be collecting food items for our local foodbank.**

Thursday 26th October Fireworks

- **Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November** - Half Term (School closed)
- **Monday 6th November** - INSET Day (School closed to pupils)

Trip Payments on Parent Pay

HELP US TO HELP YOU!

We appreciate that sometimes trips and other items have payment deadlines before parents' pay days

SO

if you need a little more time, please come and ask at the office, and we'll do our best to help so your child doesn't miss out.

A prayer for Israel & Gaza

Heavenly Father, we pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel. We pray especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies. Strengthen and support the work of all relief organisations. We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness. Lord hear us as we pray in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Dedication - Courage - Joy

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

26th October : Year 3 & 4 Anglo Saxon WOW Day

Fireworks Evening

27th October : Last Day of Term

30th October - 3rd November : HALF TERM

31st October : Deadline for Applications for Secondary Places for September 2024

6th November : Staff Training Day - school is NOT open to pupils

7th November : First Day of Term

8th November : UKS2 Visit to the International Slavery Museum

13th - 16th November : KS2 SATs Practice

17th November : Children in Need

27th November : Family Learning - Winter Crafts

City Songbird Christmas Concert - 6.45pm at The Victoria Hall

30th November : St Andrew's Day (Blue Team)

14th December : Lower Key Stage 2 Christmas Service (morning)

Upper Key Stage 2 Christmas Service (afternoon)

15th December : Early Years / Foundation Stage Christmas

Service (morning)

Key Stage 1 Christmas Service (afternoon)

19th December : Whole School Visit to the New Vic Theatre -

Nutcracker

21st December : Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Lunch

22nd December : Last Day of Term

25th December - 5th January : Christmas Holidays

8th January 2024 : Staff Training Day

school is NOT open to pupils

9th January 2024 : First Day of Term

Exciting School Event...

As you are now aware we are holding a fireworks night

*Don't forget to buy your fireworks tickets for Thursday 26th October, 5-7.30pm
Office is cash only or Parent Pay . You are very welcome to buy tickets for
family and friends that do not attend St. John's.*

Confirmed stalls so far....

Hot dogs, burgers & chips

Bo & Bean – bubble tea & waffles

Bubbles Candy N Carts – popcorn & candy floss

Fairground rides

Ice-cream man

Bouncy castle

Tombola

Face painting

Glow tattoo's

Refreshments

Glow sticks and bangles available on the night

If you have prizes for the tombola can you please send them in ASAP.

It's going to be a GREAT NIGHT!

If you know of any people who may want to hold a stall, please let the office know.



Many Thanks



St. John's Harvest

We are now collecting items for the Stoke-on-Trent Foodbank. This will end on Friday 27th October . Please see the list below for items that are needed.

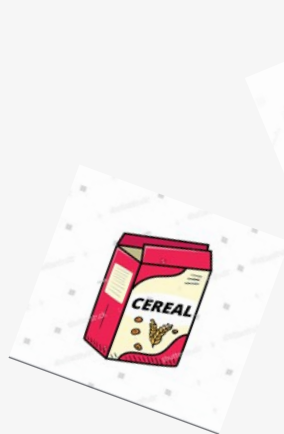
Information from the foodbank

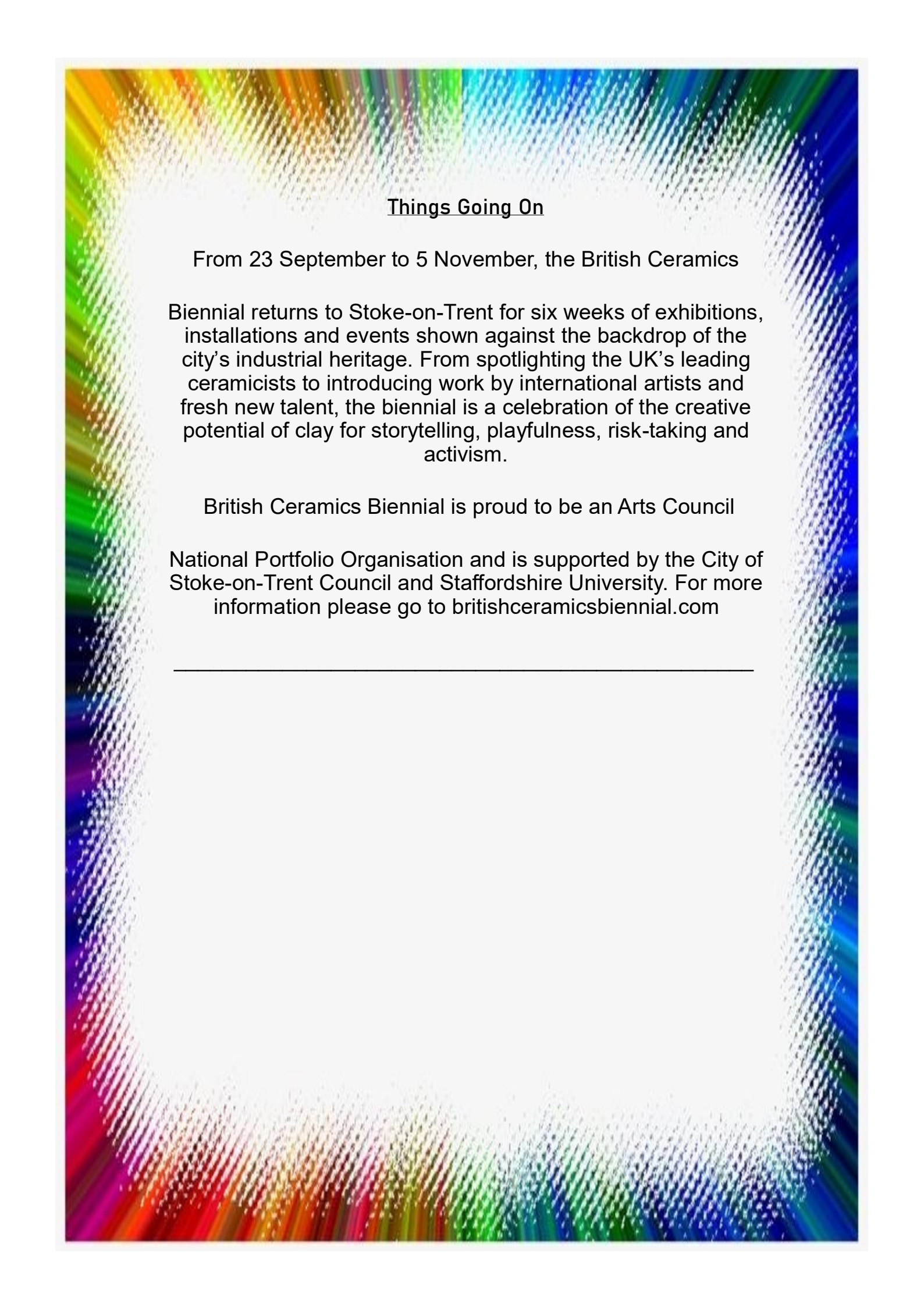
In 2022/23, food banks in the Trussell Trust's network provided 2,986,203 three-day emergency food supplies and support to UK people in crisis. Of these, 1,139,553 were distributed for children. As a network, we want to see more people helped out of crisis and fewer people needing foodbanks in the future. That's why The Trussell Trust and local foodbanks are working together to develop new ways to help people out of crisis through programmes like [More Than Food](#).

OVER 24,000 PEOPLE IN STOKE-ON-TRENT HAVE BEEN GIVEN FOOD.

Items needed— they have plenty of baked beans

- TINNED DESSERTS
- SWEET EXTRA EG CHOCOLATE, SWEETS
- TINNED SOUP
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TEA BAGS
- CEREAL
- TINNED SOUP
- TINNED TOMATO
- JAR PASTA SAUCE
- TINNED VEGETABLES
- TINNED MEAT
- TINNED FISH
- RICE PUDDING
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED SPONGE PUDDING
- BISCUITS
- TEA BAGS
- UHT FRUIT JUICE
- UHT MILK
- SAVOURY TREATS
- SQUASH
- COFFEE
- PLASTIC BAGS





Things Going On

From 23 September to 5 November, the British Ceramics

Biennial returns to Stoke-on-Trent for six weeks of exhibitions, installations and events shown against the backdrop of the city's industrial heritage. From spotlighting the UK's leading ceramicists to introducing work by international artists and fresh new talent, the biennial is a celebration of the creative potential of clay for storytelling, playfulness, risk-taking and activism.

British Ceramics Biennial is proud to be an Arts Council

National Portfolio Organisation and is supported by the City of Stoke-on-Trent Council and Staffordshire University. For more information please go to britishceramicsbiennial.com

Things Going On

School have secured 6 free tickets for 3 x upper key stage 2 (year 5 and 6) children and a parent to attend. -See Mrs Bowyer or Miss Holland for details.

The Royal Institute Christmas Lectures 2023:

An offer to you, near you for your children and their families.

REAL SCIENCE ENTHUSIASTS: For those children that talk about the science they know or have seen or read about beyond their classes. The children that would be perfect nominees for the scientist of the year (SPOTY) there is a new offer and opportunity to attend a prestigious lecture at Keele University in the inspiring Westminster Theatre.

SINCE 1825! The Ri (Royal Institution) CHRISTMAS LECTURES invite a guest scientist to explain and present the latest new scientific ideas to young people. The target audience is **upper Key Stage 2** and Key Stage 3, and their families. The lectures have been a feature of the BBC Christmas television schedule since 1966 and watching them as a family, for many, is a tradition, a tradition that families at your school have the chance to start for themselves.

NEW THIS YEAR! The chance to watch the live stream of the lecture being filmed in London. Children and families across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent are invited to listen and watch **Professor Mike Wooldridge** as he reveals the truth about **Artificial Intelligence** in the 2023 CHRISTMAS LECTURE from the Royal Institution.

For the Diary: 14th December 2023, 6pm-8pm, Westminster Lecture, Keele University

EXTRA BONUS: Tickets are free, car parking is FREE and there will be light refreshments for all on arrival.

St. John's, SATC (Science across the City) and the **IOP** (Institute of Physics) believe that there are children in every school that would be inspired to hear of science that is not yet in the textbooks and yet will be relevant to their future.

The **STEM Enthuse Partnership** are supporting school to school collaboration for pupil enrichment by awarding child attendees representing their school at the lecture with a book about AI gifted for their school library. This helps even more children to learn about contemporary cutting-edge science.

Campus Map: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/about/howtofindus/maps/keele-campus-map.pdf> (The Westminster Lecture Theatre is located within the Chancellor's Building, number 54 on the campus map)

Beth Johnson Foundation

On Wednesday morning a group of children went to Hanley Park with Miss Miah and Mrs Ramsden. We have been

working with the foundation for nearly a year. We have been helping with 'parks, playtimes and age friendly partnerships: An intergenerational pilot study'. This is a presentation of research in progress, with Keele University and The Beth Johnson Foundation. We had great fun hiding stones that we had painted, and played some old fashioned games as well as new ones. The Beth Johnson Foundation and the clients said how impressed they were with the children. During half term if you walk around the bandstand area in the park you might find some of the stones that were left there.





October Half-Term Kids Camp
St John's CE(A) Primary School

hubb

MON 30 OCT
1.15PM - 5.15PM

CLICK HERE TO BOOK
T4S ST JOHN'S CAMP

time4sportuk.com | 01782 409 677

time4sport

kids' camps.

Ages 5 - 12

Multi-Sports

Fun and Games

Enrichment Activities

Plus a FREE healthy meal!

Have FUN!

Stay healthy

Make new friends!

Learn new skills

Sport Clubs



ASH SPORTS

CRICKET MASTERCLASS

Cricket Cave (Unit B)
The Cricket Cave
Fraylings Business Park, Longport, ST6 4HS

Oct 24-26 & Oct 31-Nov 02 | 09:00-15:30

Come and join us to experience the feeling of training like a professional Cricketer!
John Hancock, will lead an array of high quality sessions to improve your technique, decision making and match play in all areas. This camp is suitable for club players aged 7-14 years old.

High Class Environment & Facilities!
The Cave has 5 nets, BOLA bowling machines, Merlyn spin machines and the latest PitchVision video analysis camera software. We will be utilising these state of the art facilities to improve every aspect of your game; whether you are a batsman, bowler or wicket keeper.

In Association With:
THE CRICKET CAVE

Price
£20.00
per day

Call: 01782 366332
Visit: www.asmsports.co.uk
Email: info@asmsports.co.uk



ASH SPORTS

FOOTBALL MASTERCLASS

Excalibur Primary School
Ivy Lane, Alsager, ST7 2RQ

09:00-15:30

Have you ever wondered what it feels like to train like a Premier League star?
Develop your techniques and understanding of the game with a fun environment that promotes teamwork and leadership.

Infants 4-6
Juniors 5-7
Seniors 8-12

We are inclusive!
We value the importance of accommodating players who have come to us from different backgrounds. Whether a novice or experienced player, everyone is challenged and given an enjoyable experience.

October 24 - October 26

Just
£20.00
Per day

Call: 01782 366332
Visit: www.asmsports.co.uk
Email: info@asmsports.co.uk



STOKE CITY

Soccer school holiday sessions near you!

Sessions are running throughout Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire.

Make sure to scan the QR code to find your nearest school and get more information on tickets and upcoming events.

Try the web too:
<https://stokecityschools.co.uk/stokecityfc/>

Courses will run every school holiday for children between the ages 3 to 15 years old.

Courses include:
Mini Potters (3-6 yrs)
Outfield (6-12 yrs)
Girls only (6-15 yrs)
Goalkeeping (6-15 yrs)

STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

01782 592 252
community@stokecityfc.com



Important attendance information

If your child has 90% or below attendance, they are classed as a persistence absent child. Before October half term your child will come home with their attendance. Please check it on this traffic line to see how much (if any) education has been missed. Every day counts.

ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

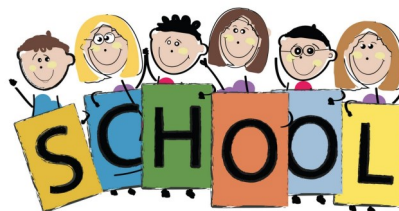
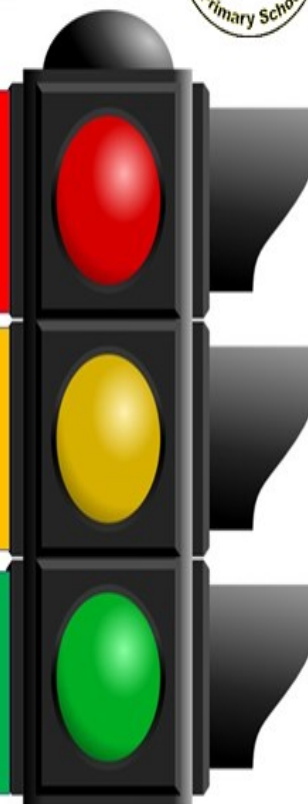


Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below
Drastic effect on
academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!



Information for our new parent/carers

We use a one way system when you bring your child and when collecting them at the end of the day.

You walk around the building, following the path and once you have dropped off your child you continue to walk to the other gate. Staff are on both gates to guide you if needed. This is both morning and afternoon.



Please note that the playground equipment should not be used by your children before the start of the school day and at the end of the school day.

All pupils riding to school on scooters and bikes, please dismount before entering the school gates and push bikes and scooters into our sheds. This includes balance bikes.

No thank you



Yes please



Can you please make sure your child is walking before school and at the end of the day. We have speedy pupils that run up and down the path and this can cause an accident, especially if we have pre-school children walking with their parents coming to collect their siblings. Please do not let your children go before you because we have had incidents when parents lose their child because they have run ahead.

We thank you for your co-operation in these matters

