

Ref: LD/KH/JC/End of Term

14th July 2022



End of Term

Dear Parents / Carers,

Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

As we approach the end of the term, I write to share some important information for the new academic year 2022/23; share some reminders about expectations and to thank you for the support you have given throughout this year, which has again seen many challenges.

Discovery Week:

As you know pupils will be completing Discovery Week between Tuesday 19th July – 21st Thursday unless they are on an International Trip that departs sooner. Please refer to the individual letters that have been shared from group leaders for these activities about departure times and requirements. I am sure that the pupils are very much looking forward to their chosen activities and I hope that they enjoy the end of term. However, a reminder that if any pupil does not follow the expectations that have been clearly shared with them, pupils will not be able to participate and will instead be removed from the activities.

School is closed to pupils on Friday 22nd July 2022.

New Term 2022/23 and Changes to the School Day:

The new term begins on **Wednesday 7th September for years 8, 9, 10 11 and year 13. Year 7 and 12 start on Tuesday 6th September.** We have made some changes to the school day in the light of the Department for Education's White Paper 2022, which requires schools to offer a 'richer, longer' school week. Therefore, the school day will be as follows:

8.20am	School Gates Open Years 7, 11 & 6 th Form enter via the top gate on Old Hall Lane Year 10 enter via bus bay Years 9 & 8 enter via pedestrian gate on Beacon Road
8.35am	All gates close Pupils to be outside of their Form Room
8.40am – 9.10am	Form Time for all pupils
3.10pm	Year 7, 9 & 6 th Form period 5 ends
3.15pm	Years 8, 10 & 11 period 5 ends
Extra Curricular, Catch Up & Redos commence from 3.15pm and end at 4.15pm	



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As you can see we have an earlier start and slightly later end to the day. The bus company has been informed and the routes have been adapted to meet our requirements. Pupils should adjust their departure times to ensure that they can arrive on site ready to start the day at the earlier time of 8.35am.

School Uniform:

I would also bring your attention to the school website which has reminders about expectations for school uniform including skirts, trousers and school shoes. You will remember that we introduced the skirts and trousers which hold the school emblem for pupils in September 2022, to challenge the short skirts and skin-tight trousers that some supermarkets sell as 'school uniform'. I appreciate that the cost of living is high and that there are ever increasing demands on incomes. In the light of the current challenges faced by us all, it has been decided that from September the branded items are optional. However, I reiterate that the same expectations of uniform are in place. We have plenty of spare, new and clean uniform which we can loan to pupils who do not follow the uniform policy. Here is a link to the school website for your perusal: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/uniform/>. Please note that we do not accept any designer, branded alternatives to our uniform. If in any doubt while making decisions about what to buy for your child, please contact postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk and we will be happy to help.

Price Increase School Meals:

The cost of living is also impacting on the price of food. I have written to you during the year to explain the challenges that we have faced in school in sourcing food to fulfil our menu offer. Unfortunately, given the rising cost of ingredients, we are having to increase the price of meals on offer. Currently, a meal deal which includes a main meal and a 250ml bottle of water costs £2.00. From September, we will charge £2.20 for this. Other price increases will be made and will be available on the website.

Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals currently have £1.00 allocation at break time. This will now be reduced to 80p to ensure that pupils can buy food and drink and have sufficient allocation to purchase a meal deal at lunch time. At break a deal including toast and a drink will be available for the 80p allocation.

If you think that your child could be entitled to Free School Meals, please use this link to make an application: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/fsm/>

Getting Home Quickly & Safely:

Further to my previous communication, can I thank the parents and pupils who have acted on my advice to make sure that your child goes directly home after school. Unfortunately, the challenges in the community persist. To keep your child safe, I would urge you to discuss with them going home directly and not loitering however innocently in the community.



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Bus Pass Discount:

If your child travels to school by bus, NX travel are offering a discount to all families who purchase a travel pass. The offer can be found here: <https://nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/intake-2022>

Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education:

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is compulsory for all pupils receiving secondary education as stated in the 'Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education' 2019. Parents can withdraw their child from the non-statutory components of RSE. However, they cannot withdraw their child from Relationships or Health Education. If you have any queries, please contact postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.

Changes to Staff:

There have been changes to key members of staff in school. Here is an update should you need to contact your child's Head of House:

Bredon	Head of House – Miss McGoldrick Assistant Head of House – Miss Trout House PA – Miss Wallace
Malvern	Head of House – Miss Busby Assistant Head of House – Miss Webber House PA – Mrs Field
Clent	Head of House – Mr Murphy Assistant Head of House – Mr Stafford House PA – Mrs Smith
Wrekin	Head of House – Mr Brennan Assistant Head of House – Mr Lowe House PA – Mrs Gough

Wisepay:

Can I remind you to log into your child's Wisepay account to clear any current debt and ensure that the account is in credit for the start of the new term. If you have any problems with your Wisepay account at any time, please contact postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.

Outstanding Vaccinations:

If your child has missed their immunisation in school for HPV - DTP/MenACWY, Vaccination UK are holding vaccination sessions in the summer holidays. These will be on an appointment basis only. To book, please contact Vaccination UK on 01384 431783 to make an appointment.

If you need to update your contact details please do by collecting a form from Reception. It is essential that we have a working contact number for you in case of an emergency.



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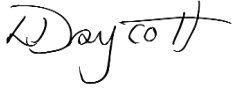
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Finally, thank you for your continued support to manage the challenges of the past year as well as celebrate the successes of our many pupils. I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing year 11 and 13 on the results days in August.

Yours sincerely,



Ms L Draycott



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