

Our Ref:KH/WS/EndofSummerTerm
17th July 2023



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

End of Summer Term

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we approach the end of the term, I write to share some important information for the new academic year 2023/24, to provide some reminders about expectations and to thank you for the support you have given throughout this year.

Discovery Week:

As you know pupils will be undertaking Discovery Week between Wednesday 19th July Friday 21st July 2023, unless they are on an International Trip or Duke of Edinburgh expedition 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, 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 Monday 24th & Tuesday & 25th July 2023.

New Term 2023/24:

The new term begins on **Wednesday 6th September for years 8, 9, 10 11 and year 13. Years 7 and 12 start on Tuesday 5th September.** The school day is 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	Years 7, 9 & 6 th Form period 5 ends
3.15pm	Years 8, 10 & 11 period 5 ends
Period 6 for Year 11, Extra Curricular Clubs, Catch Up & Redos commence from 3.15pm and end at 4.15pm	



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School Uniform:

The school website clearly details our uniform expectations including images of acceptable skirts, trousers and school shoes. We have plenty of spare 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 are happy to help.

Please also be mindful that extremes of hair colour such as but not exclusively red, pink or blue are not permitted; shaved patterns in hair and eyebrows as well as body markings are not permitted and piercings are only permitted in the lower earlobe and nowhere else upon the body.

Please remember that if your child has outgrown uniform, you can donate this at Clive Mark stores to qualify for a 10% discount off future uniform purchases at Clive Mark. We also have a donation box at school where parents can bring uniform and scan a QR code to access the discount. A reminder of the details of the discount scheme can be found in a previous letter: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/BBS-Letterhead16.pdf>

Price Increase School Meals:

Unfortunately, given the rising cost of ingredients, we are having to increase the price of a meal deal. A meal deal which includes a main meal and a juice carton will cost £2.40 from September 2023.

Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals will continue to receive an 80p allowance for breakfast or breaktime purchases.

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/>

It is important that you regularly check your child's Wisepay account to ensure that it has a positive balance. If a pupil is in a minus balance, they must bring a packed lunch and a refillable water bottle. Only a sandwich will provided, if a balance is in minus and a pupil has no food with them. Unfortunately, we will not provide food for break if an account is in a negative balance.

If you have any difficulty with your child's Wisepay account, please contact your child's House Office or postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.



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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 your child going home directly from school and not hanging around in the local community.

Water Safety & Railway Safety

Rail Safety

During the holiday, please be mindful of the safety of your child around railways. Network Rail shared the details that follow in the light of Harrison Ballantyne's tragic death:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/railway-safety-campaigns/trespass-campaigns/>

Network Rail advise that trespassing on the railway network is extremely dangerous and endangers not only the lives of those on the track, but also passengers, railway staff and the general public.

Many people - especially young people - fail to understand the danger they put themselves and others in, when they make the choice to stray onto the rail network. As summertime approaches, Network Rail are already reporting an increase in the number of incidents.

Incidents we are seeing involve children and young people:

- Hanging around on station platforms and crossing the tracks.
- Walking along the railway lines.
- Throwing stones at trains.
- Placing objects on the railway lines.
- Using the railway as a playground.

Key Messages

Trains are always running on the railway and can differ in times meaning that you can never predict when a train will pass. The Electricity is **ALWAYS** switched on around the railway.

Always **Stop, Look and Listen** before using a Level Crossing.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?

Please discuss this most important information with your child to keep them safe.

The Royal Lifesaving Society also warn about the **dangers of playing on or near open water.**

Pupils have been reminded of potential dangers during assemblies and from times this week. Again, we would ask you to speak to your child about the key messages they have heard from this assembly.



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Changes to staff in the Pastoral Team:

There have been some 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 – Mr Dawes Assistant Head of House – Mr Brennan House PA – Mrs Smith
Malvern	Head of House – Mrs Leavesley (nee Webber) Assistant Head of House – Mr Homer House PA – Mrs Withers
Clent	Head of House – Miss Trout Assistant Head of House – Miss Woolley House PA – Mrs Adkins
Wrekin	Head of House – Miss Martin Assistant Head of House – Mr Stafford House PA – Miss Wallace

If you need to update your contact details, please do so by collecting a form from Reception or completing an online form: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/application-forms/>. It is a legal requirement that we have a working contact number for you in case of an emergency.

If your child needs to take medication in school including paracetamol, they must hand it in to reception for safe keeping. A medical form can be found here: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/application-forms/>, which must be submitted with your child's medication.

Finally, thank you for your continued support this academic year. I wish you all a safe and restful summer and look forward to seeing Year 11 and 13 on the results days in August.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher





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