## START OF TERM NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the spring term. I do hope that you had a relaxing Christmas break and that you and your children have started the new year with renewed energy! We have a lot of exciting events planned for this term- trips, sports clubs, events and so much more! Please ensure you are regularly checking the school website and calendar to know what is happening.

This term staff continue with twilight professional development sessions. This week staff at both schools, Tutshill and Woolaston, have met to undergo training, delivered by an educational psychologist. Staff looked at neurological conditions, how they impact children and how we can support the children in the classroom and the school environment. Training sessions such as these are always informative and allow us to further support children and parents.

Children starting school in September 2024- Parents will need to make sure they have submitted their applications forms by midnight on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Please ensure that even if you already have a child at the school- you complete a form for the sibling! <a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-at-primary-school/">https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-at-primary-school/</a>

Best wishes, Miss Lane

### REMINDERS...

#### PE Days

Children will need to wear PE kit on the following days:

R: Tuesday and Friday

Y1: Friday Y2: Friday

Y3: Tuesday and Friday Y4: Monday and Thursday Y5: Monday and Wednesday Y6: Monday and Wednesday

### Bikeability - Year 5

Please can all forms be returned to the school office if your child would like to take part in Bikeability which will be starting in February.

### **Holiday Club Dates**

Please visit our website https://www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk/web/clubs/217155 to see the Holiday Club dates and information for the school year.

## **NSPCC Number Day**

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February we will be taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. To celebrate this, we will be taking part in some fun number-themed activities. One of these will involve some active tasks and so your child is welcome to come into school dressed in sports kit of their choice or they can wear their normal school PE kit. If you would like to donate to the NSPCC to support this day then please log on to ParentPay to donate £1. Further details will be sent nearer the time.

#### French Focus

Every half term, we are focusing on a different French word or phrase to help us embed key language as well as to use French more frequently, both in the classroom (such as during the register) and around the school more generally. Please find attached to the newsletter an overview for the year.

Our focus for this half term is 'Comment ça va?' OR 'Ça va?' (How are you?). This question is answered with 'Ça va très bien/Ça va bien/Comme ci, comme ça/Ça ne va pas/Ça va mal' (Very well/Well/So-so/Not so good/Bad)

If you would like to practise the French Focus question and answer for this half term at home, you could use these links: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhyg9mn/articles/z4c3382">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhyg9mn/articles/z4c3382</a> and <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Cl1QKl6yEM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Cl1QKl6yEM</a>

For the first two weeks of term, our Language Leaders in Year 6 will be standing just inside the gates in the mornings as the children arrive. They will greet the children in French and will also use the French Focus to ask them how they are. We hope this means that we will hear lots more French on the playground in the mornings! Parents and carers are also more than welcome to join in – Merci!

Please remember to check lost property, located by the school office if your child has lost an item of clothing or any personal belongings!

#### **Back to School and Winter Illness**

As we return to school, the link below sets out some of the simple actions that parents of school-age children can take to help protect their families and those around them against winter illnesses currently circulating.

https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/01/05/back-to-school-5-things-to-do-to-help-manage-winter-illness/

#### ParentPay School Lunch Booking Service (www.parentpay.com).

Don't forget to book your child's school meal via ParentPay. We would highly recommend that you book and pay (if applicable) for a week's meals at a time. You can book as many meals as your child requires for the week. You can, of course, book as many weeks in advance as you wish.

Please note that this is the only facility for booking school meals.

### **Free School Meals**

We are aware that during recent times, families/households may have experienced changes in their financial situations. Should you think at any point you may be entitled to receive additional money for your child at school and a daily school meal, please look at

https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/

Should you think you may qualify, please apply, regardless of what year your child may be in. The response is immediate.

# **Contact Information**

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up to date information for all correspondence purposes and in case of emergency. Please email any changes to <a href="mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk">office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk</a>

# **Cool Club Contact Details**

If you need to contact Cool Club regarding the breakfast or the after school club, parents can do so by email at <a href="mailto:coolclub15@outlook.com">coolclub15@outlook.com</a> or by their contact phone number on 07763 479119.

## **Government packed lunch advice**

The UK government has produced packed lunch guidance to support the implementation of new school food standards for school lunches and ensure that all children benefit from eating quality food during the school day. We encourage parents to follow this advice, and have added a couple of our own requirements in bold. If children bring in items of confectionary we will send the item home separately and inform parents.

The guidelines are:

- One portion of fruit and one portion of vegetable or salad every day to be included in packed lunches
- Meat, fish or another source of non-dairy protein should be included every day. Non-dairy sources of protein include lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, hummus, and falafel. Please do not send any nuts into school, or nut-based food such as peanut butter
- An oily fish, such as salmon, should be ideally included at least once every three weeks
- A starchy food, such as bread or pasta, rice, couscous, noodles, potatoes or other cereals, should be included every day
- A dairy food, such as semi-skimmed or skimmed milk, cheese, yoghurt, fromage frais or custard should be included every day
- Free, fresh drinking water should be available at all times
- Include only water, still or sparkling, fruit juice, semi-skimmed or skimmed milk, yoghurt or milk drinks and smoothies. **No fizzy flavoured drinks**.
- Snacks such as crisps should not be included. Instead, include seeds, vegetables and fruit (with no added salt, sugar or fat). Savoury crackers or breadsticks served with fruit, vegetables or dairy food are also a good choice
- Confectionery such as chocolate bars, chocolate-coated biscuits and sweets should not be included. Cakes and biscuits are allowed but these should be part of a balanced meal
- Meat products such as sausage rolls, individual pies corned meat and sausages / chipolatas should be included only occasionally.

## School Contact Details Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com

MONTH	DATE	EVENT
Jan	8	Term Begins
	26	Reception Class Walk around Tutshill
	29	Reception Class Walk around Chepstow
Feb	2	NSPCC Wear sports kit to school
	5-7	Year 5 Bikeability
	7	PTA School Disco
	9	Term Ends
	19	Term Begins
	19-21	Year 5 Bikeability
	21	NHS Dental Team for
	22	Reception and Year 1 Young Voices
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March	14	Swimming Begins Y5
	22	Term Ends
April	8	Inset Day (Staff Training)
	9	Term Begins
	24	School Photos
May	6	Bank Holiday
	7	Year 5 – Skillzone Trip
	24	Gloucester
		Inset Day
	24	Term Ends
June	3	Term Begins
July	10	Y6 Residential – Croft Farm
	19	Term Ends
	22	Inset Day