



TUTSHILL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow'

START OF YEAR NEWSLETTER (September 2023)

Dear all,

I'd like to welcome all children and parents to the first term of the academic year! Already so much has happened- new children, new staff as well as new toilets and repaired canopy and drainage outside the reception class. I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding over the last week. Whilst we were told there would be little to no impact on the September opening, order-time and obtaining materials meant the contractors have unfortunately ran over. The works are now very nearly complete and I know the wait will be worth it! We will circulate pictures as soon as we can!

The coming term already has lots planned; meet the teacher mornings, reception maths and phonics sessions and school clubs- just to name a few!

The school website holds all the information that you, as parents, need to know. You can find information about what your child is learning, for example, what they are learning this term, how we teach reading, how we teach art across the school, starting in the early years moving through to Year 6. In addition to this information, you can find information about school clubs, school meals, absence forms, holiday club and medical forms- including forms that must be signed and issued to the school office to enable the school to administer prescribed medicines. The school calendar will also inform parents of what is happening and when. Please be sure to check the school website before calling the school office.

A huge thank you to the PTA for welcoming the new parents last week, the newsletter in the pack reminded me of what a super job the PTA do- without them we would not be able to operate like we do! Should you be interested in becoming an active member of the PTA, please do take a look at the PTA tab on the school website.

This year we may be expecting Ofsted. Following the latest information provided from the inspectorate, schools inspected in 2018 will likely be inspected before July 2024. This school as always are forward thinking, continually evolving and developing and this year will be no exception. We will keep all stake holders aware of all actions taken in the school, and when Ofsted will be coming! In the meantime, may I remind you that you are always welcome to complete parent view- on the Ofsted website. <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Over the next few weeks we will open governor vacancies we have on Forest Edge Federation board of Governors. Once these are released and you have any further questions, please contact the Clerk, Mrs Chrissie Hugill through clerk@forest-edge.org. The AGM is being held on Thursday 14th September and stakeholders will then be told the Chair and Vice Chair as well as committee members.

October Holiday Club

Prostars will be running the next holiday club from Monday 30 October to Thursday 2 November. We will release these days on ParentPay at 12 noon on Friday 22 September. Places are limited and come on a first come first serve basis.



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Meet the Teacher

Year	Date	Time
Reception	Tuesday 19 September	8:55 – 9.20am
Year 1	Monday 18 September	8.55 – 9.20am
Year 2	Monday 18 September	8.55 – 9.20am
Year 3	Wednesday 20 September	8.55 – 9.20am
Year 4	Thursday 21 September	8.55 – 9.20am
Year 5	Friday 22 September	8.55 - 9.20am
Year 6	Tuesday 19 September	8.55 – 9.20am

Forest Edge Federation

Please use the school website to familiarise yourselves with members of the Governing Board. We have held our AGM this week with a very clear set of actions set out for the year ahead. Children will become familiar with the members of the board as they attend school to visit lessons and take the time to talk to children to hear their voice. Governors will also be keen to hear the voice of parents and will be soon be sending out parental questionnaires.

Seesaw Login

Your child will be coming home with their new 'Home Learning' log in for Seesaw and an access code for families. Due to changes in the system, we will no longer be using Seesaw as a direct messaging service between teachers and parents as the inbox folder is no longer allocated to individual classes. If you wish to contact a member of staff, then please do so through the School Office.

European Day of Languages

On Friday 29th September, we will be holding a European Day of Languages in school. On this day, each class will learn about the culture and languages in a different country. Children are invited to come to school dressed in the colours of the flag of the country they will be studying or in a costume that they feel represents that country (as a famous person, in a national costume, in a football kit from a team in that country, etc.).

Please note that Year 2 and Year 3 will still have PE on this day

The countries are:

Year 6 - Spain

Year 5 - Switzerland

Year 4 - Iceland

Year 3 - Italy

Year 2 - The Netherlands

Year 1 - France

Reception - Wales

If any parents/carers speak another language (it doesn't have to be fluently or linked to one of the countries above!) and would be interested in leading a short language session on the day with a year group(s) of their choice, please let Mrs Hart know via the office. We would also be keen to hear from any parents/carers who use languages as part of their job and would be interested in talking to the



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children about the role languages play in their working lives. Many thanks for your continued support.

School Office Opening Hours

The school office will be open to parents from **8.30am – 10.00am** and from **2.00-4pm** daily. Mrs Stackhouse is our School Administrator and this role is required to complete tasks such as data submissions to the DfE, attendance monitoring, management of information systems and well as monitoring communication to and from the school and managing contractors. This time will allow her to complete these roles.

During the period of the School Office closure, parents will still be contacted should children be unwell, or should children need to be collected for a hospital appointment. Parents/carers will need to notify the School Office in advance of such arrangements.

Attendance

Please see new updates regarding Attendance and Punctuality on the enclosed link <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-attendance-and-exclusions-and-welfare/attendance-and-absence-from-school/>

Parents are responsible for making sure their children attend school regularly and on time. This means every day the school is open; children are expected to attend. Children must be on school premises by 8:45am ready for registration.

The Attendance Officer in School- Mrs Stackhouse- is monitoring attendance and parents will be contacted should discussions surrounding your child's attendance and punctuality be needed. We will be monitoring attendance in school with rewards, certificates and attendance monitoring on the website. Please refer to the attendance policy on the school website for further information. We actively encourage parents to make health and dental appointments outside of school hours. We do however recognise that medical appointments issued by healthcare professionals occur in school hours and as such, will be authorised. We understand that children will be unwell and we do not encourage poorly children to attend school. Please refer to the school website for guidance if your child is too unwell for school.

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office by 9am and leave a message. Mrs Stackhouse will then pick this up and the registers completed accordingly.

Communications

Our principal forms of communication are:

1. Our (eSchools) school website at www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk;

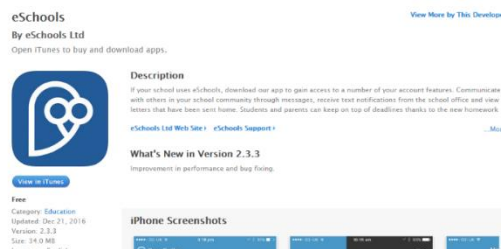




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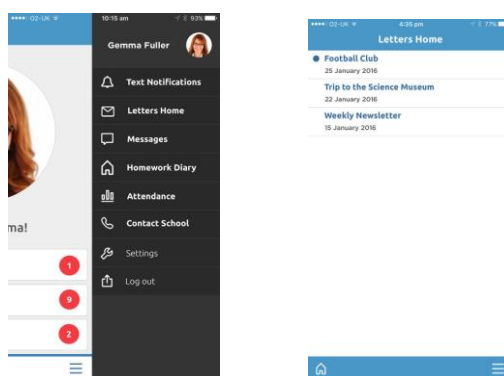
- The accompanying iOS and Android eSchools app for smartphones and tablets; and



- Our school newsletter.

In addition to all the information you have already been able to access on our school website as an external user, the underlying system and complementary app provide our outbound email and communications platform with you once your child has started school.

The iOS and Android app enables you to receive an alert as soon as we send an email and it offers direct access to the contents of the email without troubling you to log in to your email account. A couple of sample screen shots are shown below:



You will be provided with login credentials for your personalised eSchools account which will be required for the app during the Induction Programme.

When using the school website on a desktop, these same login details will also enable you to:

- access information specific to your child's class;
- review your child's attendance record; and in due course
- see details of homework or projects set for completion along with other functions.

We would be grateful if you would create your eSchools account for use with the app and the desktop website as soon as possible upon receipt of your login details so that we can be sure that we can keep you informed.

Year	Platform	What it contains	
R	Tapestry	Childs learning diary against EYFS goals. This is a platform that will only share learning- no communication will come from Tapestry re school updates	
All school	eSchools	Email:	Newsletter regarding whole school events and school calendar. 3 x term- end of first week of term, mid-term and last week of term
		Text:	For last minute notifications that need to get to parents quickly- weather warnings, school closure etc.



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All School	Seesaw	Class SeeSaw is a learning platform that allows parents to see what is happening in their child's class. It allows class teachers to send updates and reminders that are solely relevant to that class.
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We have been receiving an increasing number of messages from parents sent to class teacher using this platform, sharing comments and informing class teachers of absence. The above platforms are for teachers to communicate with parents/carer.

All notifications of absence, sickness or medical appointments must go to the School Office. The class teachers will be teaching during the day and are not expected to check SeeSaw so messages like this will unfortunately be missed.

Any comments or questions regarding school activities, please can these be directed to the School Office.

Newsletters will be sent to parents at the start, middle and end of term.

Online Learning Journal (Reception children only)

Children will be observed as part of everyday experiences and some of these observations will be recorded using Tapestry. You will be expected to download the Tapestry app to be able to view these observations, comment and upload your own observations to form your child's individual learning journey.

Sickness Absence

Please report any absences to the school office via email or answerphone. Please do not use Seesaw to report illness.

Free School Meals

Could Your Child Benefit from Pupil Premium Funding?

Tutshill C of E Primary School can receive additional funding for any child receiving Free School Meals. This is separate from the Universal Free School Meals which are given to all pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The Pupil Premium funding is allocated solely to the registered, eligible[†] pupils and is used to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for those children. For example, at Tutshill School we spend the Pupil Premium funding on:

- 1:1 support teaching;
- Class supported teaching;
- Group work;
- Pastoral activities e.g. cooking and gardening;
- Tutoring;
- Purchased resources for mathematical development and emotional resilience;
- Enrichment activities

In order to support the eligible children's learning and personal development.

Additionally, registering for Free School Meals also entitles your child to:

- Free musical tuition;
- Free school trips; and
- A school uniform bursary.

[†] In order to qualify for Free School Meals for your children you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- *Income Support;*
- **Income-based** Jobseeker's Allowance;
- **Income-related** Employment and Support Allowance;



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- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit, **provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit**
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit; or
- Universal Credit.

As a parent/carer you can apply for Free School Meals online along with your Admission applications. The Free School Meals Portal also includes an online eligibility checking service which provides instant feedback – so they can easily confirm if you are entitled. For more information and to make an application visit <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

School Uniform Policy

Our school uniform remains unchanged and consists of:

- A light blue polo shirt*, shirt, or blouse
- School sweatshirt* or navy jumper or cardigan
- Smart grey trousers or grey skirt/pinafore (skirts should be of an appropriate length and style)
- Grey socks/tights
- Dark coloured appropriate sensible shoes.
- In summer, children may wear grey shorts/blue checked dress
- Hair tied back with navy/black hair bobbles. Hair will be tied back should it reach shoulder length.

PE Kit:

- Navy T-shirt* and navy shorts
- Navy jogging trousers/leggings and jumper/sweatshirt
- KS1 (Reception, Y1 and Y2) daps/black or white trainers; and
- KS2 (Y3, 4, 5 and 6) black or white trainers (no colour/logos/names).

ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM AND OTHER ITEMS OF CLOTHING MUST BE NAMED.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children is a key priority at Tutshill C of E Primary School.

We:

- ensure adults who come into contact with children have enhanced cleared from the Disclosure & Barring Service (which has replaced Criminal Records Bureau);
- communicate child protection procedures to all staff, parents and visitors. We would ask that should you hear, see or read anything which troubles you about a child, do not ignore it, but report your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, DSL: Miss J Lane
- For further information on safeguarding, contact the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board: www.gscb.org.uk. Tel: 01452 583638.

Safeguarding of pupils is everybody's responsibility. Should you have any concerns please report to the DSL- Jennifer Lane or DDSL – Natalie Fryer, Amanda Cooper and Robyn Howells



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Diary Dates for September 2023 – Nov 2023

MONTH	DATE	EVENT
Sept	4	Inset Day
	5	Term Begins
	18	Meet the Teacher Year 1 and Year 2
	19	Meet the Teacher Reception and Year 6
	20	Meet the Teacher Year 3
	21	Meet the Teacher Year 4
	22	Meet the Teacher Year 5
	26, 27	Life Ed Van
	29	Open Day for 2024 Reception
Oct	3	Open Day for 2024 Reception
	6	Flu Vaccinations
	16	School Photos
	27	Term Ends
	30 – 3 Nov	Half Term
Nov	6	Inset Day
	7	Term Begins
	13 - 17	Parental Consultations

School Contact Details

Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com

November 2021



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