



## TUTSHILL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

### START OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year at Tutshill C of E Primary! It is lovely to see all the children, parents and carers returning to school after the summer break. The children have all settled very well into their new classes and they have been engaging well with their new teachers and new learning. They have clearly missed each other over the holiday! It is also lovely to welcome some new families and children into our school in EYFS and we are really pleased that you have joined our school community.

#### **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, 26<sup>th</sup> 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 6 will still have PE on this day\**

The countries are:

Year 6 - Spain  
Year 5 - Ukraine  
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 children about the role languages play in their working lives. In addition, if any parents/carers have lived or worked abroad and would be interested in talking to the children about their experiences, we would love to hear from you.

Many thanks for your continued support.



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## Attendance

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 school gate at by the office will be open from 8:35am, please note the top gate at reception will be closed at 8:40am and the bottom gate will be closed at 8:45am. *Please note parents are not allowed to take children to the classrooms in the mornings.*

The Attendance Officer in School Mrs Joubert 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.

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.

## Communications

Our principal forms of communication are:

1. Our (eSchools) school website at [www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk](http://www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk);



2. The accompanying iOS and Android eSchools app for smartphones and tablets; and



3. Our school newsletter.

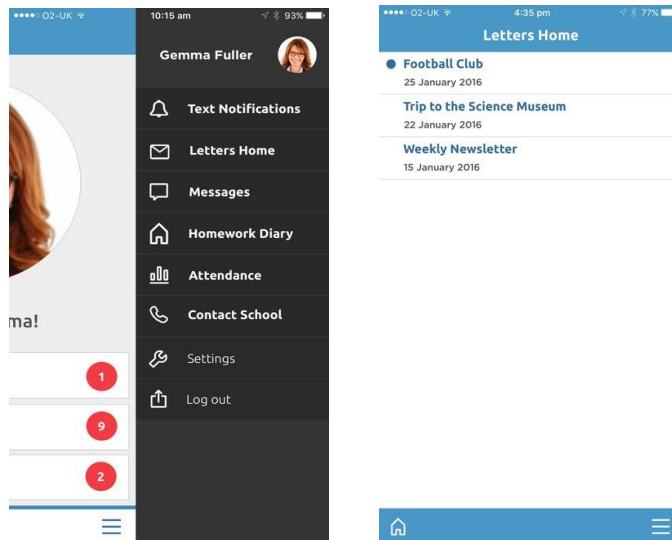
In addition to all the information you have already been able to access on our school website as an external user, the underlying system and complementary app provide our outbound email and communications platform with you once your child has started school.



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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
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.

We have been receiving an increasing number of messages from parents sent to class teacher using SeeSaw, sharing comments and informing class teachers of absence.

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.

We aim to send Newsletters at the start, middle and end of term to parents.



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### 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 to [attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk) or answerphone message by 9:15am. 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<sup>†</sup> 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.

<sup>†</sup> 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;
- 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/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>



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### 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: Mrs E Gomersall
- For further information on safeguarding, contact the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board: [www.gscb.org.uk](http://www.gscb.org.uk). Tel: 01452 583638.

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

### Reminders

- Packed lunches should not contain any nuts as we have children with nut allergies.
- Please log onto ParentPay and book lunches.
- Please inform the office of any contact, medical details that may have changed so that we can keep pupil records up to date. Thank you.
- Any changes in medical condition to be reported to the office at the earliest convenience.
- Ensure up to date medical forms has been completed
- All inhalers must be returned to school at the earliest opportunity.
- Community events can be viewed on <https://www.tutshillcofeschool.co.uk/web/home/200045>
- Children must not play on the climbing equipment this includes younger siblings in the morning before school and after school.
- Please note parents are not allowed to take children to the classrooms in the mornings.



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### **PTA News**

We are delighted to share that Tutshill C of E Primary School has launched an exciting new initiative in partnership with Uniformly, an online platform that makes it simple to buy pre-loved school uniform. Families can now browse our dedicated online shop, place an order, and collect items directly from the school office within 48 hours. Please note that the photos on the site are representative images to give you an idea of what is available, and may not be the exact item you receive. This scheme not only supports our commitment to being an eco-friendly school but also offers families a more affordable and convenient way to access uniform, without the need to travel further afield. As this is a PTA initiative, all money raised goes straight back into supporting your children and enhancing opportunities throughout the school. To get started, simply create a free account and log in to the Uniformly website as a parent, search for Tutshill C of E Primary School, and explore the items we currently have in stock. We are excited to see these pre-loved uniforms find new homes and hope this service will be a valuable resource for our school community. If you have any questions or run into any problems, please don't hesitate to speak to us directly at the PTA.

Don't miss out on the exciting events happening this autumn! We're kicking things off with our annual Colour Run on Saturday, September 27th. Get ready for a vibrant day of fun, with more details about the event coming next week.

Following that, join us for a fun-filled evening at our Quiz Night and PTA AGM on Friday, October 3rd, held right here at the school. It's a great opportunity to test your knowledge and connect with other parents with a drink.

Lastly, mark your calendars for the much-anticipated School Disco on Wednesday, October 22nd. We can't wait to see you there!

### **Autumn Term One After School Clubs**

#### After School Clubs

We are in the process of finalising clubs for the Autumn Term and the booking forms will open on the ParentPay platform on Thursday 11th September at 4pm. Clubs will commence on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

#### After School Club Provision

As it is the beginning of the year, we would like to ask for your feedback about our after school provision. Please could you take a couple of minutes to complete a questionnaire about our after school clubs using the link below. We will then use this information whilst planning clubs for this academic year.

Many thanks for your time.

<https://forms.office.com/e/KXRtwX2Efz>



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### Diary Dates for September 2025 – July 2026

MONTH	DATE	EVENT
Sep	1	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	2	Start of Autumn 1 Term 1
	23+24	Life Education Visit
	24	School Photos – Individual photo's Sibling photo's
	27	PTA Colour run
Oct	3	Quiz night and PTA AGM
	22	PTA Disco
	23	End of Autumn 1 Term 1
	24	Inset Day – No pupils on site
Nov	3	Start of Autumn 2 Term 2
	6	Flu Vaccinations
	26	Y6 - UK Parliament Week School's Day Education Tour and Workshop 2025
Dec	19	End of Autumn 2 Term 2
Jan	5	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	6	Start of Spring 1 Term 3
Feb	13	End of Spring 1 Term 3
	16 – 20	Half Term
	23	Start of Spring 2 Term 4
	26	Y5 Swimming starts
Mar	27	End of Spring 2 Term 4
	30– 10 April	Easter Half Term
Apr	13	Start of Summer 1 Term 5
	16	Y5 Swimming finish
May	4	Early Bank Holiday
	22	End of Summer 1 Term 5
	25	Bank Holiday
	26–29	Half Term
June	1	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	2	Start of Summer 2 Term 6
July	1-3	Y6 Residential
	17	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
		End of Summer 2 Term 6
	20	Inset Day – No pupils on site

### PE Days

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reception: Monday and Wednesday</li> <li>• Year One: Monday and Thursday</li> <li>• Year Two: Monday and Friday</li> <li>• Year Three: Tuesday and Thursday</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year Four: Tuesday and Thursday</li> <li>• Year Five: Wednesday and Thursday</li> <li>• Year Six: Wednesday and Friday</li> </ul>
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School Contact Details: Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: [office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk)

Attendance: [attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk) / PTA email: [ptatutshill@gmail.com](mailto:ptatutshill@gmail.com)