

Wednesday 7th September 2022

Dear Crackley Bank Families,

On behalf of the whole team at Crackley Bank, I'd like to welcome you and your children back to school for our Autumn term. We are looking forward to welcoming our new Nursery class as well as a number of new children into other year groups. We hope that you have had a lovely time with your families and friends over the summer break.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Morrey - Nursery, Mrs J. Johnson – Year 2 and Mrs. Curley - Year 3 to our school team and don't forget that in Year 1 Miss Paling is now Mrs. Lowndes and Miss Norton is now Mrs. Bellerby. Our full staff list can be found here - <https://www.crackleybank.staffs.sch.uk/index.php/our-school/meet-our-team>

I have really been looking forward to writing a new school year newsletter that doesn't focus upon covid or school closures however, that seems to have been replaced by the cost-of-living crisis that is looming across the country.

Firstly, let me reassure you that there are no plans to shorten the school week, as reported in the press over the holiday – this is not something that we are looking at. (I can hear your sighs of relief from here!!)

I am sure that you will be reducing waste and being far more careful with fuel usage at home and we will need to take some steps to do the same at school so don't be surprised if your child comes home to say I've been nagging classes about turning off lights and taps or saving paper! We may also turn down the heating thermostat a couple of degrees, it will always be warm, but children will still be allowed to wear extra layers if they are not as warm as they'd like to be.

As well as reducing our bills, where possible, we are aiming to be even more mindful of the costs that we pass on to families so we will ensure that where we are asking for charity donations and you are unable to donate then that is absolutely fine – there is never any expectation to donate if the money is needed at home. We still have a stock of donated school uniform so, if you require an item, please don't buy new before checking if we can help. We will also carefully consider our educational enrichment visits so that the parental contribution is manageable whilst ensuring the school budget stays afloat.

If you are finding finances difficult, **please speak to us**. We will continue to provide breakfast for pupils each morning and we also have a number food parcels available for families who are in need of support; all funded by the amazing Chesterton Street Champions. There really is no need to go hungry – if we can help, we will help. There is support available at the Salvation Army, Kiln Bank Road – they have short date, fresh food available for collection each Wednesday between 9:30am and 11am. We also have a supply of sanitary products if you require them – just pop into the main reception or ring Mrs. Gleaves and we'll ensure we help you in a discreet manner.

Finally, I must admit that I foresee an uncertain winter ahead of us but the one thing that I am sure of is that if any school can pull together and help each other then it is Crackley Bank! The way the community helps when needed is second to none and I am very proud to continue to lead your school to ensure that we always provide the best education and care for your children.

Please speak to us if you need support.

Take care, stay safe.

Ms Stevenson

Our School Rules:



Try your best



Be calm



Be truthful



Be safe

Be kind



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