

5th September 2016

WELCOME BACK TO AUTUMN TERM

This is just a quick letter to say welcome back to the Autumn term at Harpenden Academy. Mrs Jackson will soon be emailing you all a list of important dates for your diaries. This is by no means an exhaustive list but it gives you the key dates for this academic year.

School Newsletters

In addition to the Friday newsletter (The Voice) the Class Teachers will also be providing class newsletters which will be very much tailored to each class. Paper copies of the class newsletters will be sent home each Friday in the book bags and a copy of the newsletter can be found on the class pages on the school website. I hope you will find this informative and it's always handy to have something to stick on the fridge door!

Once the children have entered into KS2 (Year 3 – Year 6), the children are no longer eligible for free school meals. We are moving to a system where all school meals are paid for in advance. This means that there will be payment deadline dates which will be outlined for parents in Friday's newsletter. In the interim, Mrs Hart will be sending out invoices for this half term's dinner money.

School Uniform/PE Kits

Please can I remind parents what the expectation is regarding school uniform, school shoes and PE kit. PE lessons, which are taken by Samuel Ryder Academy sports staff, will be starting the week beginning 12th September. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school by this date. The kit should be taken home for washing (and to check sizes) at the end of each half term.

The daily uniform consists of the following:

T-shirt - one for everyday use	HA Supplier
Hooded sweatshirt/Zipped hooded sweatshirt	HA Supplier
Waterproof fleece lined layer zip up optional	HA Supplier or High street shop
Book Bag	HA Supplier
PE Bag	HA Supplier
Winter - Dark Grey school trousers/dress/ skirt	Own
Summer - Green or Blue striped dress	HA Supplier or High St shop
Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms for PE	Own
White T-shirt for PE	Own
Black school shoes	Own
Black pumps (for indoor PE)	Own

Trainers for outdoor PE	Own
Wellies or Snowboots	Own
Dark coloured socks/grey tights for every day	Own
White socks for PE & with Summer dress	Own
Waterproof trousers (optional but highly recommended)	Own
Water bottle	Own

A book bag is available to purchase from Stevensons and children use these each day to bring home their reading books, reading record, letters, work, forms and leaflets. Please do help your child decorate their bag so they can easily identify it.

For safety reasons, children with long hair must have it tied back securely, and children must only wear stud earrings or small religious pieces of jewellery which can be covered if needed for PE. Hair accessories should be in keeping with school colours. No nail varnish or temporary tattoos are to be worn at school.

It is vitally important that all clothing is labelled. At lunchtime today I found four abandoned coats in the playground with no names inside – only day one! Without names it makes it almost impossible to reattach children to clothing.

- **Uniform Consultation**

As mentioned in my last newsletter in July parents have spoken to me regarding the school uniform at Harpenden Academy. Whilst the children all looked rather smart this morning I am concerned that the clothes don't appear to wash well and the shape and colour deteriorate quite badly. I have set up an email address, uniformconsultation@harpendenacademy.org for parents to email their thoughts regarding the existing uniform. All of the schools in the Sir John Lawes Academy Trust have similar uniforms and this is an avenue which can be explored for Harpenden Academy. Please use the email account to leave me your thoughts.

This is not a decision which I want to rush into but I would like to canvas opinion moving forwards.

It's been lovely to see you all today and to hear such positive comments regarding the school and the classrooms.

Many thanks

Mrs L. Davies

Head teacher

