**St. Bridget’s Catholic Primary School**

**St. Bridget’s Lane, Egremont, Cumbria CA22 2BD**

**Headteacher:** Mrs. Suzanne Smith

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**Learning to Love, Pray and Grow Together as a Community in the Light of Jesus Christ**

3rd September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you have all had a great summer. As a staff we would like to thank you for the many cards and gifts received at the end of last year. Your kindness was overwhelming.

We look forward to the new school year ahead, continuing to grow and improve as a school.

**Playground**

Some of you may have noticed the changes that have taken place outside during the summer holidays. We have added fencing to the Infant playground wall to ensure children use this space in the safest way possible. Children will now only be able to use the stiles to gain access to the barked area.

Unfortunately we have had to remove the large tree that stood at the end of the playground as it was making the surface unmanageable and potentially dangerous. In time, we intend to develop this space further.

Reception have had a huge overhaul of their available outdoor space and are lucky to be able to enjoy a safe and spacious area to develop their outdoor curriculum in. I would like to thank Mr Livingstone for working so tirelessly this summer, with the many builders on site (we’ve also had our kitchen reroofed!), ensuring the school is ready to open for the new school year.

**Wraparound**

We are delighted to be able to offer wraparound from 7 a.m. from September. If you use Breakfast Club between 7:00-7:30 a.m. please drop your child off at Year 1’s door (to the side of school), where Miss Stephenson will be. From 7:30 a.m. onwards, Breakfast Club can be accessed through the front door, as normal.

If your child is in wraparound until 5 p.m., please ensure he/she is picked up promptly.

New charges for clubs apply from the start of the school year:

Breakfast Club: £3.00

After School Club: £3.00/hour

**Uniform**

The children look incredibly smart in their uniforms today and I thank you all for ensuring they have everything they need for school. Black school shoes are the only shoes acceptable in school and I ask, that as the year goes on, children don’t start coming into school in alternative footwear; this goes against our uniform policy. Please note, summer uniform for girls is only acceptable during the summer term. All children should be in full uniform this term.

**Start and End of the School Day**

Children in Years 2-6 will continue to enter the school at 8:50 a.m. through the front doors. From tomorrow, all teachers will be based in their classrooms from 8:50 a.m. onwards and children will go directly to their class, after they visit their lockers. This will ensure a prompt start to the school day and I ask that children arrive in school on time so they don’t miss out on the initial input to their first lesson of the day.

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children will enter their classrooms via their outside doors and are to be collected this way also.

Junior children will continue to leave school via the Junior corridor at 3 p.m. However, as there is a new outdoor area outside Reception, I ask that parents ensure children **DO NOT** use any of the equipment and move their child/ren promptly away from this area.

Year 2 will continue to be collected via the front doors of school.

**Attendance**

Our end of year attendance percentage was disappointingly low despite all that we do to encourage and promote excellent attendance. This is down to the number of term-time holidays families have taken throughout the year. This not only impacts on a child’s education, it also impacts on us as a school as we are judged on our overall percentage during inspections. Before booking your next holiday, please consult the term dates and note that the Easter holidays don’t take place during Easter this year so you might be able to find better deals.

**Pastoral Care Mentor**

Mrs Nicholson, our Pastoral Care Mentor, will continue to be available to parents, every morning from 8:50 – 9:10 a.m., to discuss any concerns/ worries you have.

**Forthcoming Events**

This will be sent out as soon as possible. We are trying to put as many dates as we can in the diary so you have plenty of notice. There will, however, be times when things happen in school that aren’t on the list, but we will communicate these to you, as and when we know of them.

**Mrs Palmer**

Congratulations to Miss Marney, who got married in the holidays; she will now be known by her married name - Mrs Palmer!

Finally, if you have any concerns regarding your child and school, please come and tell us. We would prefer to find out from you rather than read it on social media.

I look forward to the year ahead with the children at St. Bridget’s!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S. Smith

Headteacher