



Friday 14th July 2023

Dear Families

I write to you today with my last newsletter of the school year. Today we send our Year 5 pupils on to their next chapter. We will miss them hugely and all the wonderful things they bring to Birdsedge but we wish them well and know they are more than ready for this next adventure. Next week begins our transition week at school, for Monday and Tuesday children should be dropped off and collected from their usual doors but from Wednesday onwards will start and finish the day in their new classes as we transition them into their new teams. Wishing you all a wonderful family summer when it gets here, sending a huge thankyou for all your support over the year and for being such wonderful families to work with. You are all my heroes! Any questions about or during next week, please do not hesitate to get in touch 😊 Mrs Waddington

Tree Tots

Leanne has run a successful Tree Tots session this half term for families with young children. If we have enough bookings we would love to run another block in the Autumn Term. Please do spread the word to anyone with young families who might be interested.

Bookings can be made at the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/aM5irESpUJ>

Friends of Birdsedge

A final thank you of the year to this wonderful group who have organised some brilliant events for children and families to be involved in and raised an incredible amount of money over the year, which will be a huge support to curriculum enrichments next year. Thank you, also, to all of you too who support the Fundraisers and help them to be successful.

Attendance

There has been an increased number of holidays taken during term time this year and believe me when I say I truly empathise...going straight from school to further education and into teaching I have never paid anything other than the extortionate prices school holidays bring! However, it is important I follow policy and as it states:

'Reflecting national concerns around attendance, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (now the Department for Education) issued revised guidance in October 2007 and June 2013 strengthening the view that as a general rule, children should not be taken out of school in term time'

Therefore, any term time holidays will not be authorised next year following the policy of:

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the school will not approve any term time leave of absence for:

- Any student in full time education where current attendance is less than 95%.
- Statutory exam periods.
- In the month of September

All absence must be requested in advance and for holidays that are taken of 6 days or more a penalty notice will have to be issued.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Summer Holiday Club

We still need some bookings for our Holiday Club to run from Monday 7th August to Friday 11th August. Please find the booking link here and please share with anyone you think might be interested:

<https://forms.office.com/e/70hH80HEFY>

Dates for the Diary

Friday 21st July: Last Day of Summer Term, School closes for the Summer Holidays.

Monday 4th September: INSET Day, school closed to all children

Tuesday 5th September: School opens to all children, new Reception children in 9:30am – 12:30am.

Wednesday 6th September: New Reception children in school all day.

Communication

<https://twitter.com/birdsedgefirst>

<https://www.facebook.com/BirdsedgeFirstSchool>

<https://birdsedgefirst.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofbirdsedge>

HD8 Network

Just a reminder of the HD8 Network we are members of. Check out a recent article we had published here:

[Birdsedge First School - My Journey as Headteacher since September 2020 - HD8 Network](#)