

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing with information about the start of the new school year in September. Please read this letter carefully. A copy is also available on the school website www.hooleceprimary.co.uk in the Parents/Carers section.

The new school year starts on Wednesday 1st September. Please note that there is no teacher training day at the start of the new term.

In September, your child is in **Year 4**. Their class name is **Thunderbird**. Their teacher is **Miss Carter**. Their classroom base is shown on the attached plan.

COVID Related Information

You will be aware of national changes in line with the government roadmap. In my experience, guidance changes over time.

I plan to write to parents/carers before the start of the term to provide an update regarding COVID related issues and organisation in school based on the latest guidance available to me. This will be emailed to families prior to 1st September.

At the present time, I would confirm that there will be a more flexible approach to children from different classes mixing as the class 'bubble' approach will be phased out. An outbreak management plan will be documented which will record actions we will take should we need to reinstate the measures currently in place.

Uniform

We have taken a common sense, flexible approach to this given events during this school year. In September, we ask you to support us in ensuring that all children wear correct uniform, PE kit and black school shoes.

Your child will come into school in their PE kit on days when they have PE in September. Please ensure that your child has PE kit in line with the school's policy.

A copy of the uniform list is attached for your information.

Start of the School Day

Your child's class will arrive at school for **8.40am**. Parents/Carers will continue to drop children at the gates and will not come into school or wait on the school playground. Your child will come into school via **the gate onto the main playground**.

Pupils will **wait in front of the Year 6 classroom**.

The school gates will open at 8.30am. Timings for your child's year group are shown below:

8.40am	Arrive at school
8.45am	Whistle blown for children to line up to come into school with their teacher
8.50am	Registers taken School gates closed at 8.50am – any children arriving after this time will need to come into school through the main office door.
9.00am	Registers closed – any children arriving after 9am will be marked as late

Lunchtimes

All pupils will eat lunch in the school hall from September. This will be organised on a rota basis as follows:

Cohort	Lunchtime
Reception	11.45
Year 1	12
Year 2	12
Year 3	12.15
Year 4	12.15
Year 5	12.15
Year 6	12.15

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 receive a free school meal under the government universal free school meals for infants scheme. Pupils in Year 3 - 6 registered for free school meals will also receive a meal.

From September, the cost of a school meal is £2.40. School meals payments are made online via the School Gateway. Please ask the office team for help with School Gateway if needed.

If you wish to investigate if you qualify for means tested free school meals, please contact 0300 123 7021 or email www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk. Information about eligibility criteria is in the Catering section of the School Information area on our school website.

A copy of the menu is attached. This is also available on the school website in the School Information (Catering) section.

If your child is new to the school, please ensure that you have informed us regarding any allergies or dietary requirements prior to 1st September.

End of the School Day

Your child will **leave school by the gate on the main playground.**

Your child's school day will **end at 3.20pm.**

Children will be released by staff to parents/carers from gates. Family members collecting children should wait outside the relevant gate.

PE/Forest School Days

Forest School and PE will commence from Week 2 (**week beginning Monday 6th September**).

Activity	Days	Additional Information
PE	The PE timetable for September will be shared before the end of term.	Children may come to school wearing PE kit and training shoes. Please ensure that PE kit is in line with school

		policy.
Forest School	<p>These will change on a termly basis.</p> <p>In Autumn term, days are currently planned as follows:</p> <p>Monday: Reception Tuesday: Year 5 Wednesday: Year 2 & Year 3 Thursday: Year 1</p> <p>Any changes to these days will be confirmed prior to the start of term.</p>	Please ensure your child has a waterproof jacket.

Stationery

We will provide children with packs of stationery and equipment. Please do not send pencil cases into school.

Snack for Playtime

Your child's class will have morning break at 10.30am.

You may wish to send a small, healthy snack in for your child's morning break.

Holidays

We have tried to organise INSET teacher training days around school holidays to ensure that any families wishing to take an extended break may do so without fines for holidays during term time.

An updated holiday list is attached. I would draw your attention to October 2021 half term and May 2022 half term where there may be increased flexibility for holiday booking due to additional INSET days organised. Please note that a penalty fine is likely to apply where a child misses five or more consecutive days of school due to a holiday.

I have taken a common sense approach to leave during term time over this term but will have to apply local and national policy from September with increased rigour.

Thank You

I hope that this information is helpful to you and that you have an enjoyable summer break. I would like to thank you all for your support, patience and cooperation over this school year. I look forward to the next academic year which I hope will run more smoothly than the last two years.

Yours sincerely,

R. Flanders
Headteacher