

Thames View Infants



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WELCOME BACK!

09 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers;

Welcome Back to School!

We hope you have enjoyed the summer with your children. It's great to see everyone back. The children are settling well into their classes and there is a very happy atmosphere in school. I believe that our Academy continues to offer an Outstanding provision for our children and families and I look forward to building upon last year's successes, in partnership with my team and James Smith at Thames View Juniors, to the benefit of all our pupils.

Here are some important messages and "top tips" to help us all "carry on from where we left off" before the summer...

School Uniforms Please!

I wanted to remind you that we ask for all children to wear one of our school-branded polo shirts, available to purchase on ParentMail in 6 vibrant colours, all priced at £6 each. We do not want children to wear any other types of shirt/top whatsoever. The t-shirts were designed by some of our ex-pupils and our children are still very excited about wearing them.



Also available via ParentMail are the PE kits and also our signature Book Bags and PE bags.

Please place your order online, via ParentMail, and we will fulfil it as soon as we possibly can. As you can imagine, this is our busiest time of the year. However, we are still aiming to have all orders fulfilled and delivered within a week. All uniform orders are delivered to class and you will get an email when the order has been given to your child. They will then come out from school with their uniform order in a shopping bag at the end of the school day.



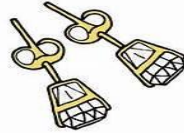
We're a PAPERLESS School – so you must download & register your ParentMail App to receive e-newsletters, to book after-school clubs & Parents' meetings or to confirm consent for educational visits.



Overly Hot Children!

It's only just turned Autumn and **most children will not yet need a jumper or vest in school!** Children are really active at school. Wearing too many layers will over-heat them and increases the chances of items of clothing getting lost.

Also, please make sure that children's names are written in all items of clothing. Lost property can be located in our front office.



Thank you for continuing **not** to bring your child to school wearing jewellery. If your child does have earrings, **please take them out.** Earrings, if pulled or caught, can result in a nasty tear. Please help us with this.

PE Kits

All children undertake 2 hours of high-quality PE in school each week. Throughout the year, they are taught PE in two weekly lessons – developing vital Gymnastics, Games, Dance and (in Year 2) Swimming skills. **Children require a PE kit and this needs to be in school all week. Please make sure you provide your child with a PE kit and a suitable PE bag.** My teachers will be writing to you within their Year Groups to tell you when their PE lessons are. Year 2 children will be attending swimming lessons as part of their PE curriculum throughout the year and we'll be writing to you shortly with all of the details.

It's good to talk!

Teachers are busy getting to know their new classes. Please come and introduce yourself to them in the playground. Good communication is so important and helps us get to know you and your children even quicker still.

In October, you'll have the chance to formally meet with your child's class teacher at our Parents' Meetings. Dates for these will soon be available via the ParentMail App.

Coming to School Every-day!

Please remember all of the ways that we can help support your child coming to school every day – including administering medicine at school, keeping a 'special eye' on them when they are 'under the weather' and watching out for them at lunchtime. Please continue to call, e-mail or text the school (by 10am) in order to report an absence on each and every day of your child being poorly. Last year our attendance was one of the highest of all Primary Schools within Barking and Dagenham and, this year, we want to build upon this further. Remember, you should not book family holidays during school time.

Pre-Loved Uniform Sales

We understand that many of our families are struggling to make ends meet at the moment and we want to do all that we can to help. We're aiming to hold a 'pre-loved uniform' sale at least once a term and in order to make this happen we really need your help.



We are looking for donations of any old uniform that your child no longer needs / fits into. Rather than throw any old uniform away when you've finished with it, we would be really grateful if you could donate it to us. We will wash and iron it and make sure that it goes to a new home and doesn't go to waste. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

First and Surnames

At TVI we want our children to know teachers by their first and surnames, depending on the formality of the situation. So you'll expect to hear your child referring to their teacher, for the most part, by their first name. (In assemblies and other formal times, for example, we revert to the formal Mr/Miss format). I greatly believe that children learn to respect their teachers through careful relationships within a vibrant provision and with 'high quality' teaching – which is what we have here at Thames View Infants.

We're here to Help! - Resolving Worries

We hope your child has a very successful academic year with us. We strive to provide the best education for all our children. My staff and I work very hard to build positive relationships with all parents and stakeholders and to offer exemplary customer service. All my staff are here to help – so please don't ever worry needlessly about anything. Listening to gossip often just makes things worse and is usually unfounded. Misunderstandings are almost always unintentional and when something is not right, it's important that you **come and talk to us straight away**. All of my staff, including Rosa and Adam, are here to listen: come and talk to us and we'll see what we can do, together, to put things right. Emma Murphy (our Family Support Professional) and Suzy Waters (our Inclusion Leader) is around in school to help too and they will be sending out more information shortly.



My staff are a great bunch of professionals, who really have a great passion and a genuine desire for your child to do well - many of whom have families of their own. At times, no doubt, you might get upset about something unintentional and we'll always be here to help you – but you mustn't take it out on us. **Accordingly, we won't tolerate threatening, vexatious or bullying/aggressive behaviour whatsoever.** We have a Code of Conduct Policy and any violations of this could result in you being **banned from the School premises** – which means not being allowed in beyond the School gates. That's something that we'd hate to see happen and we're keen to avoid, so please - for the well-being of your child's education – please, keep it calm and courteous in School.

Friends of TVI

Here at TVI we pride ourselves on the close relationships that we have with all of our families. We like to think that we are at the very heart of the community. We believe that our children thrive the most when school and families work together as a team and we are always keen to listen to what you have to say and take any new ideas onboard. With this in mind, we are setting up an exciting new parent/carers group called 'Friends of TVI'.



Our Friends of TVI group will be made up of a selection of parent/carers representatives and the idea is that they will meet up and share ideas about new family activities, coffee mornings, bake sales, school fetes, charity events and much, much more.

We are looking for parents/carers who will have the time and dedication to commit themselves to this role and ideally we would like a representative from each class from Nursery up to Year 2.

Our meetings will always be during the school day and should never take longer than 60-90 minutes. If you think this might be you, please pop into the office to speak to Emma. We hope to hold our first Friends of TVI meeting before half term.

Helping ALL Children Achieve their Best

We are very good at helping our children, regardless of their ability, to do particularly well. I judge the quality of learning as Outstanding and, together with careful planning, support and a deeply inclusive provision, all our children make particularly accelerated progress. Indeed, we are one of the highest attaining Infant Schools nationally. Teachers differentiate their work in each lesson and do their best to personalise this to the needs of individuals. The groupings in classes will change across lessons and also over time as we carefully tailor the learning so that your child gets the right balance of challenge and consolidation. If you feel you would like more information on the learning that your child is working on, or want to know what you could do at home to help further, come and talk to us.



Find out what we're doing – *all the time!*

Did you know we're on Twitter – the social networking site? Subscribe and get daily 'live updates' about what's going on at school and 'behind the scenes' – and join in with the conversation @TVInfants.

www.twitter.com/TVInfants

Thames View Infants Television – on YouTube

We have an extensive online archive of Top-Tips, Podcasts and other movies from our Academy over the last few years. Have a look at the "Our Best Days at Thames View Infants" showcase video. You could even search the archive and watch one of the other 300 videos we've made over the last few years.

Watch us on



It's not a nice subject, but I want you to remember, some important **Safeguarding obligations**:



- Children under 13 must not be on Facebook or Social Media and that's your responsibility.
- You (or your child minder) must stay with your child in the playground before and after School and NOT allow them to wander out of sight. You/they must never drop your child off at the school gates.
- It's illegal to slap a child around the face, with an implement or in such a way that it leaves a mark. It is your legal responsibility to make sure that people looking after your child doesn't do this either. If a child happens to disclose this to us, which they do often willingly tend to do, then it's **our responsibility to seek advice from Social Services in the first instance and then follow *their* lead.**
- It's also your responsibility to send your children to School every day and punctually too. Children who miss approximately, on average, a half-day a week (i.e. with attendance lower than 90%) will have their details passed to the Local Authority and reported to the DfE as a Persistent Absentee. This is a statutory measure and happens regardless of the reason for absence.

Wraparound Care

We are delighted to let you know that this year our Afterschool Wraparound Care is being facilitated by Premier Education and held at Thames View Infants. Sessions run from from 3-6pm each week day and the provision is available for both infant and junior school children. The booking system is extremely flexible. If you would like to book a place in this club for either an infant or a junior school child, please click on the link below:

www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4054/?location=thames%20view

Reception children will be able to attend after the October half-term and once they've settled into school.

Please do remember to book a place if you think you might need this provision for your child. We know that the need is there for this kind of wraparound care but so far the uptake has been fairly limited. Obviously, in order to keep this provision in place, we will need a reasonable number of children in attendance each day.

Reminders!



If something is not right, whatever is, then come and talk to us. The more we all talk together, the better our children will do at school!



Please, bring your child to school wearing one of our new polo shirts.



Please remember to put your child's name in their clothes.



In KS1, children receive homework twice a week and extra copies are available on our website.



Children require shorts and plimsolls for PE and they should keep their PE kit in school every day.



Children require their book bag every day and should read at home with an adult every evening.



Family holidays take place during school closures only – please see attached school calendar dates (or you may be fined per child/per parent and even lose your school place!)



EVERYTHING is available online – so explore our website!



Tweet with us on [Twitter](#)



Use Parent Mail and check it every day!

I'm really looking forward to the upcoming academic year; I know it's going to be a very successful one and we're already planning lots of exciting educational visits, theatre groups, open days and special events for both you and your children to enjoy. We're all busy getting to know all our children anew, but please do pop in and say hello and, as always, thank you for your on-going support.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Jordan
Headteacher