

July 2023

END-OF-TERM NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer

At the end of the academic year, I write to thank you all once again for the support that you have given the school over the last year. After three COVID-affected years, it has been something of a relief this year for things in school to run much more normally. That's not to say that the year hasn't been without its challenges, of course. As an example, we have had the National Education Union (NEU) strike action, and this has undoubtedly caused disruption for you and your children. Nobody would say that this is anything other than deeply regrettable.

I am not an NEU member. However, I do have sympathy for their action, and that is because I want the very best for your children. Be in no doubt that there is a recruitment crisis in education currently. Simply put, there are not enough teachers to go around. One in three new teachers leave the profession within five years. Only 70% of teacher training places were filled in 2022-23. It is getting more and more difficult to recruit specialist teachers in some subjects. It is simply not good enough for your children not to have specialist teachers in front of them. We go into 2023-24 having not been able to fill two of our teaching vacancies. If a wonderful school like Limehurst cannot recruit teachers, imagine what it is like for some other schools. We have to try to move education back up politicians' priority list.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, I will list some staff who are moving on this summer, but I really must pay tribute to one in particular: Vickie Beeby. Vickie has taught at Limehurst for an incredible 22 years, and she has been deputy headteacher for the last five. She has been central to the school's success in recent years, with an ever-present drive to raise standards, and she will be very much missed.

I wrote to you earlier in the year to tell you that, for the Spring and Summer terms, I would be working as Executive Headteacher over both Limehurst and also The Kimberley School, another school from within our Trust. I have thoroughly enjoyed doing that, but that time is now drawing to a close, and I am very happy to be coming back to be Limehurst as full-time Headteacher next year!

For now, though, everybody is ready for a well-deserved break. I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday, and I look forward to seeing your children again on Wednesday 30th August at 8.45am.

Yours sincerely

J Mellor
Headteacher

BEGINNING OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

As stated in the letter, all students return on Wednesday 30th August, 8.45am start.

- Years 7, 8 & 9 should enter via the Tatmarsh gate.
- Years 10 & 11 should enter via the Car Park gate.

The school day will remain the same as this year:

8.35am	Gates Open
8.45am	School starts – registration. Gates are closed.
8.55am	Period 1
9.55am	Period 2
10.55am	Break – different zones for Years 7 & 8 and Years 9, 10 & 11. Food available to buy in the canteen.
11.15am	Period 3
12.15pm	Period 4
1.15pm	Lunch – different zones for Years 7 & 8 and Years 9, 10 & 11. Food available to buy in the canteen.
2.00pm	Period 5
3.00pm	End of School Day

School will be running a breakfast club. More details about this will follow early next term.

STAFFING NEWS

Four teaching staff are leaving us this summer. I have already mentioned Vickie Beeby in the letter. Farewell and good luck also goes to Agnieszka Kolinska, Jo Crane and Tobias Redman. Harry Patrick leaves us as a teaching assistant, but will be back in the new year as he commences his teacher training course!

Internally, Graham Robinson is staying on the senior leadership team as an Associate Assistant Headteacher, and Alex Jones will be Head of Year 7. Congratulations to you both!

Joining us as our new Deputy Headteacher from a school in Nottingham is Mr Daljeet Sandhu. We also welcome Miss Flora Wu (Teacher of Maths), Miss Laura Simmonds (Head of English), Mr Jack Holden (Teacher of PE), Mr Samuel Adekanmbi (Teacher of Computer Science) and Mr Matthew Wood (Teaching Assistant).

GCSE RESULTS

Results Day is Thursday 24th August 2023. Everyone will have a timed appointment. There is a letter with more details available to view on our [website](#).

TERM DATES 2023-24

Autumn Term

School Opens	Wednesday 30 th August 2023
Mid-Term Break	Monday 16 th to Friday 20 th October 2023
School Closure Day	Friday 24 th November 2023
School Closes	Friday 22 nd December 2023

Spring Term

School Opens	Tuesday 9 th January 2024
Mid-Term Break	Monday 19 th to Friday 23 rd February 2024
School Closes	Friday 22 nd March 2024

Summer Term

School Opens	Monday 8 th April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May 2024
Mid-Term Break	Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May 2024
School Closes	Friday 12 th July 2024