

# Barrow Hill Primary Academy



**Address:** Station Road, Barrowhill, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S43 2PG  
**Telephone:** 01246 472494 **Email:** [info@barrowhill.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@barrowhill.derbyshire.sch.uk)  
**Website:** [www.barrowhill.academy](http://www.barrowhill.academy) **Twitter:** @hill\_barrow

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear parent/ carer

I hope this letter finds you well. All children in school have had a great start back to the new academic year. They are incredibly settled, working hard and displaying behaviour that you would all be proud of. It has been so nice to operate school in the usual way with mixed lunch in the hall, playtimes together and movement between classrooms. We are still ensuring that rooms are well ventilated, children are regularly sanitising and we are still limiting the number of adult visitors to school. Several events have been scheduled for autumn term, please see the table below and take note of important dates. As always, if you have any queries, questions or would like to speak with a member of staff then please just let us know.

## Covid

The latest government advice for parents and carers can be found [here](#):

### **If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test**

Do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school, college or to an entry test for a selective school if:

- they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- they have had a positive test result
- there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are [required to quarantine](#)

You should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#).

If you insist on your child attending nursery, school, or college when they have symptoms, they can take the decision to refuse your child if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. Their decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.

## Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is due to take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October in the school hall. Donations of tinned food and non-perishable item would be welcomed, these will be shared with the local foodbank. Unfortunately, we will not be hosting the festival with parents. We will take photographs and videos and share these via social media and Class Dojo.



## **Pantomime**

This year's Pantomime performance is Beauty and the Beast. We have been allocated seats for the 10:15 am show on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. The price of the ticket is £12.50 and there is the cost of the coach and insurance to add to this. We expect the total cost to be in the region of £15-£18. We will only be able to take the children to the Pantomime if we have enough children who have paid. In previous years, we have had to cancel this visit due to low numbers committing to pay. To reserve your child/ren a seat, please pay a £10 deposit via Parent Pay. We are a cashless school and require school payments to be paid online. If you do not have login access or have forgotten your details, please contact Lynne in the office. Deposits must be paid by **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021**.

## **Play Together**

I am so pleased to announce that our Play Together sessions are back! This is a group which children who are ages between 0-3 are welcome to attend with a parent/ carer. Please share with friends in the community who may be interested in joining the group. Everybody is welcome. Sam and Mrs Law will host the first two sessions then we will look at another adult to work with Sam after half term. Our sessions are as follows:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021: 1:30 pm -3:00 pm in the hall

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021: 1:30 pm -3:00 pm in the hall

### **HALF TERM**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021: 1:30 pm -3:00 pm in the hall

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021: 1:30 pm-3:00 pm in EYFS (due to bike ability in the hall)

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021: 1:30 pm-3:00 pm in EYFS (due to bike ability in the hall)

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021: 1:30 pm-3:00 pm in EYFS (due to bike ability in the hall)

Please arrive at the school office for 1:25 pm. Lynne will then take your details for fire evacuation purposes. We ask that adults/ children do not attend the sessions if they have any of the three main Covid symptoms, have tested positive within 10 days, are awaiting PCR test results, have tested positive via a lateral flow device or have been asked to isolate via test and trace. It is advisable to take an LFD test before entering school as an added layer of protection for those in the group.

## **Parent/ teacher consultation meetings**

Meetings are due to take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October. You will be sent a link to a Microsoft form next week to indicate the best time for your appointment. You can select to either attend face to face or receive a telephone call to discuss how your child has settled into the new academic year.

## **Academy Improvement Board**

Once again, we are trying to recruit parent governors to join our Academy Improvement Board. Lauren Thorpe has kindly stepped in to represent our families but we need more of you! All we need from you is the commitment to attend pre-arranged meetings once per half term, attend training and support events and be a critical friend and advocate for our school. Please let me know either at the

school gates or via email at [headteacher@barrowhill.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@barrowhill.derbyshire.sch.uk) if you are interested in this role.

## Staffing

Mr Oxspring has been visiting school every Monday since September. He is a PE teacher from Netherthorpe who works in Bob Marely class (nursery and reception) in the morning then Helen Sharman class (Y1/2) and Sir David Attenborough class (Y5/6) in the afternoon. Mr Oxspring has already established good relationships with the children and they look forward to their weekly PE lessons. Mr Oxspring is due to start an after school club with KS2 on a Monday. An electronic form will be sent next week to see who is interested in taking part.

Lauren Thorpe has been appointed as a permanent mid-day supervisor. During Covid, Lauren has worked as a relief mid-day with Cathryn Hardwick ensuring that children are well supervised and organise play and games activities. We are pleased to see Lauren join the permanent team and look forward to seeing her develop in her role over the next few weeks.

Mrs Casson-Kenyon has made the difficult decision to leave Barrow Hill and has a new position working at a nursery in Killamarsh. We are sad to see her leave and we are enormously grateful for her hard work over the last few years. Mrs Casson-Kenyon has worked hard to establish a positive, nurturing environment in our EYFS unit and has supported many of parents with children who have additional needs. The culture she has created in the unit will continue and I am pleased to tell you that Mrs Law, who already works in the unit, will become the class teacher. Sam will continue in her role supporting children as a play lead and we will employ another adult to provide 1:1 and small group support.

<b>Autumn 2021</b>	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	Deadline for Panto deposit to be paid via Parent Pay
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> , and 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Play Together 13:30-15:00
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	Parent/ teacher consultation evening
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2021	School closes – half term
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	INSET Day – school closed to all children
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021	School opens – autumn term 2
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , November 2021	Play Together 13:30-15:30
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	INSET Day – school closed to all children
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2021	School closes – Christmas holidays
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2021	INSET Day – school closed to all children
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2021	School closed (in lieu of Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday)
<b>Spring 2022</b>	
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	School opens – spring term 1
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	School closes – half term
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	School opens – spring term 2
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	School closes – Easter holidays
<b>Summer 2022</b>	
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	School opens – summer term 1



Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022	May Day Bank Holiday – school closed
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	School closes – half term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	School opens – summer term 2
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022	School closes – summer holidays

### **In our thoughts**

I am sure many of you have been made aware through social media of a tragic car accident that one of our pupils from a few years ago has been involved in. We want to send our best wishes to Thomas Michael's family and hope he makes a full recovery. He, along with his family, are in our thoughts and prayers.

