



Drapers' Pyrgo
Priory School

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Welcome Back!

As the Spring Term begins, we would like to welcome all the children, parents, carers, staff and governors back to Drapers' Pyrgo Priory, and wish everyone a Happy New Year. Although we are very pleased with the achievements and progress of the Autumn Term, we are determined to build on that success and aim to raise our standards even higher. With this in mind, we would like to remind you of the opportunities available at Drapers' Pyrgo Priory as well as the need to adhere to certain requirements that come with being a pupil here.

Attendance and Punctuality

Drapers' Pyrgo is a successful school and we value your children's education and safety.

It has recently however come to our attention that a significant number of our children are falling behind with their attendance and punctuality. For your children to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend school regularly. It is your duty as parents/carers to make sure that your child is at school, on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

Poor punctuality is not acceptable. If your child misses the start of the day they can miss vital information and news for the day. Pupils arriving late also disrupt lessons and cause embarrassment for your child. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Absence also disrupts teaching routines and so might affect the learning of others in the same class. Ensuring your child is at school and on time is your legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without good reason is against the law and may result in prosecution.

It is very important therefore that you make sure your child attends regularly and all our staff will be committed to working with you as parents/carers and pupils to ensure as high a level of attendance as possible. With this in mind we have recently appointed an attendance officer, Mrs Louise McLoughlin, who will be working across the schools in the MAT.

She will be monitoring attendance and punctuality very closely and will be contacting all parents/carers of children causing us concern as we feel safeguarding your child's education and wellbeing is of paramount importance. We want to assist you in every way possible to ensure they gain the best benefit from their education. Please contact us via the office or your child's class teacher if you would like further support with improving attendance or punctuality.



Extra-curricular Clubs

Our extensive range of extracurricular clubs run voluntarily by our staff both during lunchtimes and after school, will continue to be provided. We believe that it is important for children to develop their skills and increase their enjoyment of the school community by participating in clubs. If you would like your child to become a member of a club, please contact the teacher in charge to see whether places are available.

Collection of children at the end of the day and after clubs

Unfortunately, there has been a recent increase in the number of children being picked up late after clubs and at the end of the day. Although we fully understand that there will be occasions when a parent or carer is delayed, those children who are not collected on time regularly present a significant problem for our busy office staff at the end of each day or after clubs have finished. Where children are collected late repeatedly after school or clubs, we will be compelled to view this as a safeguarding matter and will need to take further action to resolve the situation.

SATs Preparation

Parents and carers of children in Years 2 and 6 will be aware that the national SATs assessments will be carried out early in the Summer Term. In order to prepare the children for these assessments, the school will be instigating measures in addition to the regular daily teaching of the curriculum. In Y6, for instance, some children will be invited to attend boosters which will be run after school. Both Y2 and Y6 parents and carers will also be invited to a meeting in order to clarify the processes involved in conducting SATs assessments, support you might be able to give your children and ways in which we might reduce potential stress levels linked to these assessments. A letter in this regard will be issued in due course.

- The KS2 meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13th March** from 3:15 pm in the Year 6 block (The Woodlands Centre),
- The KS1 meeting will be held on **Thursday 15th March** from 3:15 pm in the Y2 block (The Shannon Centre).

Early Years Foundation Stage

Mrs Caws and the rest of the Early Years Foundation Team will be holding a consultation for parents and carers on **Tuesday 16th January** to provide you with more information about the Foundation Stage Profile and how to support your child in meeting all the early learning goals by the end of the year. A letter in this regard will be issued in due course.

