

Autumn Term 2018 Welcome Letter

Dear parent/guardian,

I hope your child(ren) have enjoyed their first week at school. All of the team at West Moors Middle have been working very hard to ensure that pupils have had a purposeful and calm start to the new academic year and this has been my impression in these first few days. I would like to thank you in advance for your continuing support on the following issues which may represent new school policies or simply be a timely reminder of our expectations:

Uniform

The full list of school uniform is presented on the school website and in pupils' planners - the vast majority of pupils look smart at the start of term. Nevertheless, I would like to highlight:

- Jewellery should not be worn, with the exception of stud earrings which should be removed or covered on request
- Long hair should be tied back
- Make-up is not allowed, including nail varnish which should be removed
- Sensible, all-black school shoes should be worn by all pupils

Planners

The school invests a significant amount of money on planners in order to help pupils with their organisation and provide an important home-school link. Please note:

- Certain pages in the diary should be read and signed by the parent: the Home/School Agreement is an example of this
- Teachers will provide feedback and information on a weekly basis in the planner. This may be about homework, on-going behaviour or general notices
- Parents should sign the planner each week
- Lost planners will need to be replaced at a cost of £2.50

Equipment

As advised in the summer newsletter, your child/ren should come to school with the following equipment to support their classroom learning:

Essential:	Even better if...
Blue pen (not biro)	Dry wipe marker
Pencil	Colouring pencils
Rubber	Yellow and blue highlighters
Ruler	Calculator
Purple pen	

Homework

Homework is set in all year groups. A homework timetable is presented at the bottom of this letter for you to display at home. All homework is set with a reasonable amount of time to allow completion and there is a homework club after school on Thursdays. This year, we are trying to develop *Knowledge Organisers* that will allow pupils to prepare for the facts and skills needed in a particular topic. These will eventually be posted on the curriculum pages of our website.

Access to the school site for the bus

We have one large bus that visits the school twice a day, so that 30+ pupils can be transported to and from school. In recent times, the bus has found it very difficult to turn left into Heathfield Road from Heathfield Way due to parents parking on the bend. Access has also been hampered by parents using the school car park without a permit. If you feel that you have a specific need to park within the school site, you should apply for a permit via the school office.

Breakfast/After-school club

In the spring term last year, I did a survey of parents to ascertain the level of need for a breakfast/ after school club. The feedback suggested that such a facility would just about be a viable option. Ever since, I have been working with an outside provider to put a provision in place. Due to circumstances beyond the school's control, it has not been possible to launch this yet. However, I am continuing to work behind the scenes in order to deliver these provisions. Please could you once again return the attached reply slip if such a facility would be useful for you.

Marvellous Me

The school is in the process of reviewing its behaviour policy in line with recent national initiatives. There will be an opportunity for parents to find out more about this in the coming weeks. Part of the new behaviour policy will include our use of Marvellous Me (<https://marvellousme.com>). This will be a free service which will transform the way in which parents get feedback about their children's achievements in school. There will be a letter early next week giving advice about how parents can sign up for this.

Upcoming dates

The school website has recently been updated with forthcoming dates such as parent evenings and INSET days. Most immediately, school photographs will take place on Tuesday 25th September. Please contact the office if you would also like siblings to be photographed together.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Rielly
Headteacher

When is homework set at WMMS in 2018/19?								
Key Stage 2				Key Stage 3				
	English	Maths	Other	English	Maths	Science	Humanities	Other
Y5	Wednesday	Wednesday	Occasionally					
Y6	Thursday	Thursday	Occasionally					
Y7				Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Monday	Occasionally
Y8				Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Occasionally

