



Headteacher: Mrs Kelly O'Connor

5.9.23

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back, we hope you have had an enjoyable summer. It is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their new Alfred Lord Tennyson School uniform - thank you to parents and carers for supporting the change. Unfortunately, there has been a delay with the manufacturers on the delivery of the KS2 ties. Once these are received, they will be presented to the children. While the weather continues to be exceptionally hot this week, children can choose whether to wear their uniform or their PE kit. They will also need to come to school with sun cream applied and bring a hat and water bottle. Next week they will be expected to wear full uniform. PE days for this term are as follows:

Year 1	Tuesday and Thursday	Please bring PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit) in a bag for children to change into.
Year 2	Tuesday and Thursday	Please bring PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit) in a bag for children to change into.
Year 3	Tuesday and Friday	Children to come to school wearing their PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit)
Year 4	Wednesday and Thursday	Children to come to school wearing their PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit)
Year 5	Monday and Wednesday	Children to come to school wearing their PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit)
Year 6	Monday and Friday	Children to come to school wearing their PE kit (red t-shirt, trainers, plain black shorts/black tracksuit)

Over the summer, both sites have had some redecoration and building works carried out to give them a refresh. Alfred Street is also having repairs carried out to the roof by the school office and new accessible toilets fitted in the reception area, this work is due to finish within the next few weeks. Our Alfred Street site has also had privacy fencing put around the playground and this is also due to be installed at the Tennyson Road site.



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As part of the amalgamation of the two sites, we have had to merge all the data and technology systems so that all data can be accessed from both sites. Unfortunately, this has resulted in some teething problems which we are still trying to address so please bear with us in term of updating ParentsApp, the new website and Facebook page. As a result of the migration, the phone lines at Alfred Street are not currently working so please continue to contact us on the school mobile number 07547728822 until further notice.

You may have also seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

The DfE has been helping education settings and responsible bodies (such as local authorities and multi-academy trusts) to identify and manage the potential risks of RAAC since 2018. You can find more in the Education Hub article published by DfE.

We appreciate the concern this may raise, and we will always prioritise the safety of your children and our staff.

We do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we want to take care and to be sure, and are currently working with the DfE to actively check whether RAAC has been used in the construction of any part of our buildings. If RAAC is identified, we will let you know straight away, and we have contingencies in place.

The change in guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects education premises where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed. DfE is offering us access to surveyors who are helping us do these checks quickly.

Any contingency plans will prioritise the continuation of education and ensure that, if RAAC is identified, any impact on children is kept to an absolute minimum. Rest assured that the safety of children and staff is of paramount importance to all concerned.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K O'Connor

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