



Packmoor Ormiston Academy Newsletter

Friday 16th September 2022



In line with the National Bank Holiday on Monday 19th September. School will be closed to allow our staff and children to pay their respects to Her Majesty the Queen.

Lifting Limits

We are pleased to announce that we are taking part in a pilot project with Lifting Limits.



Lifting Limits is a charity who support schools and teachers to achieve gender equality in and through education. If you would like further information, please see the guide for families leaflet which is available to view on our school website, under the 'For Pupils' page, weekly newsletter section.

We have a whole school Careers day on Friday 23rd September where children will come to school dressed up as what they would like to be when they are older. Any parents who would like to come into school on this day to discuss and talk about their jobs, please contact the school office.

Attendance at Packmoor

Penalty Notices - Information for parents/carers

Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. All children aged between 5 and 16 are required, by law, to receive an education, and it is the duty of a parents and carers to ensure that they are supported to do so.

Packmoor Ormiston Academy has an Attendance Policy, available on the school website, and is responsible for keeping accurate records of pupil attendance. The academy will contact parents/carers directly if it has any concerns about a child's attendance.

Following the pandemic our Academy did not make any referrals to the Local Authority in relation to holidays taken during term time, as we understood that many holidays were postponed as a result. However, penalty notices (a fine) will now be issued for unauthorised absences from school. This includes holidays taken during term time.

Please feel free to contact the main school office should you wish more clarification.

High School Applications current Year 6

Applications for High School places are now open. This must be submitted on or before **31st October 2022**.

www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions

Diary Dates—Time Change to the Christmas Nativity Performances.

Key Stage One

Friday 9th December, the performance will be at **09.00am, not 2.00pm** as stated on the diary dates leaflet.

Parent Pay

If you are new to Packmoor and you have not yet received your ParentPay details, please speak to the academy office who will provide you with your log in details.

Please activate your account as soon as possible, as this will enable you to pay for items such as school lunches, uniform, breakfast club and after school club.

School Meals

We have just changed catering providers for this academic year.

If your child has any food allergies, or medical dietary needs, please contact the school office on 01782 234544 and we will send a letter home for you to complete.

A copy of our new menu can be found under the 'Quick Links' page on our Academy website.

Nursery lunch £2.15 per day
Year 3 to Year 6 £2.65 per day

All children in Reception through to Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal through the Universal Free School Meals scheme.

If your child is in Nursery, or Year 3 to Year 6, you will be required to pay for a meal daily unless you are eligible for Free School Meals.

School meals need to be paid for on our ParentPay system.

Autumn Term 2022

Friday 21st October - School Closes

Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October
(Half Term)

Monday 31st October - School Opens

Friday 25th November - **OAT Inset Day 2** School Closed

Friday 16th December -
(School Closes 1.00pm Christmas Holiday)

Spring Term 2023

Tuesday 3rd January - School Closed Inset Day 3

Wednesday 4th January - School Opens

Friday 17th February - School Closes

Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February -
School Closed (Half Term)

Monday 27th February - School Opens

Friday 31st March - School Closes 1.00pm Monday 3rd
April - Friday 14th April - School Closed
(Easter Holiday)

You Could be eligible for free school meals

If you are eligible for Free School Meals but you haven't claimed because your child brings a packed lunch to school, you may not be aware that the school receives additional funding that is used to support children who are entitled for Free School Meals, e.g. help towards the cost of educational visits and extracurricular activities etc.

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit – provided you have an annual net income of no more than £7,400 as assessed by earnings from up to 3 of the most recent assessment periods (not including any benefits you get)

Should you require any further information or a claim form please call into the school office or telephone us on 01782 234544.

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