



**BARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
BURNLEY CAMPUS
BARDEN LANE BURNLEY
BB10 1JD
Telephone No: 01282 226777**

School Attendance Matters Newsletter—Summer Term 2 - July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Who can believe it, we've reached the end of another fabulous school year. All our pupils have worked really hard this year and they have all made great progress. Our pupils and teachers certainly deserve some rest and recuperation time this Summer. We look forward to welcoming our new Year Reception pupils in September and wish our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck as they fly our nests and move on to new pastures to secondary school. We will miss you Year 6 but we also look forward to receiving you back next year for you to share your new achievements with us.



Attendance

Our whole school attendance this academic year from 1st September to date is 92.18%, which is down from 95.65% in comparison to the pre Covid year 2018/2019. Unfortunately, we are also behind the National Primary School average of 94.1% year 2022-2023 to date. Some of this is due to the spread of Strep A and Scarlet Fever in the Autumn term and we've also had our fair share of Chicken Pox in school this year, which accounts for 4.1% of absences. It is hoped that our pupils' immune systems are now set up for next year, for fewer days of illness so that we can achieve our 96% whole school.



Unfortunately, the biggest impact to attendance still remains to be Unauthorised Extended Leave. This year, 1.57% of absences are due to Extended Leave meaning that if our pupils did not go on Extended Leave in term time, our attendance would actually be 93.75%, nearly in line with the National Average. Our latest figures are reported on later in the newsletter. As a school, we cannot emphasise enough that **it is the law for children to be in school during school term** and the loss of learning time is and will continue to impact pupils now and in their later years both emotionally, educationally and socially. Next year, we will be working with other schools to impact change.



How to get ready for a new school year suggestions poster

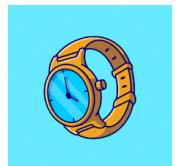
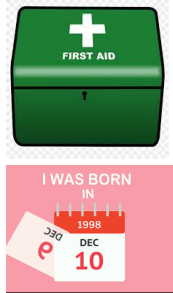
In preparations for September, here's some great tips below to help you get ready for the new school year over the summer holidays:



September 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



- Consider booking a dentist appointment for your child and if necessary, plan treatment before your child returns to school.
- Check with your Health Centre to see whether you and your family is entitled to vitamin D or other vitamin supplements as another way to keep everyone in your household healthy.
- Take the time to check your child's health record/red book and update your child's vaccinations.
- Follow up pending hospital appointments with view to booking a cancellation through the holidays.
- Check your First Aid kit and supplies to make sure your thermometer is in good working order, children's paracetamol and inhalers are in date and replace them if necessary.
- Does your child know their date of birth and their address with post code. This is really useful information for registering late at school and information your child will need to know now and in the future.
- Check Barden Primary School holidays against any other school's holidays impacting your family to help you plan holidays in advance to get the best value for money for flight tickets and avoid costly mistakes.
- Take the opportunity to teach younger children the time and maybe consider gifting a child's watch or their own alarm clock as a gift or reward instead of sweet treats.
- Watch out for bargains like coats and rain macs in the summer sales ready for the new school year.
- Practice hand washing with children so that bug sharing is kept to a minimum.
- Replace old batteries in household clocks to help every one keep time helping you be at school for 8.35am in September.
- If you're usually someone that runs late, why not consider running clocks in your home and car 5 minutes faster.
- Set new bed time routines one week before school starts so that children are settled into bedtime and morning routines ready for the start of school.
- Get lots of fresh air and exercise so that your Vitamin D is topped up ready for the darker nights.



School Re-opens on Tuesday 5th September at 8.35am

Have a wonderful summer holiday!

Holidays in Term Time

Holidays in term time are not permitted. **This is at the direction of the government.** We have many families that have taken or are about to take trips in school time. It is most concerning that so far this year:

- **94** pupils have gone or about to go on unauthorised extended leave, which accounts for **20%** of children going on Extended Leave this academic year.
- **109** Request for Leave of Absence Forms have been made.
- **1,204** school days have been lost or will be lost which is the same as **nearly 7 school years.**
- **63** penalty Notices have been raised to date with many waiting to be processed.

If a leave of absence is required the correct process is:

- Complete a Request for Leave of Absence Form.
- Make an appointment to meet with Mrs Holgate the Headteacher.
- Make travel arrangement and provide school with tickets.



This process has been agreed by the Governors and is in the School Attendance Policy. It also demonstrates incredibly poor manners to take your child out of school without informing us you are going to be away. School also requires as much notice as possible. We recognise that parents have reasons to travel but school asks that leave is taken during the 13 weeks school holidays as lost learning cannot be caught up. Taking Extended Leave in term time also puts your child's school place at risk at a time when over 300 children in East Lancashire are not enrolled in a school and are waiting for a school place.

- **Extended leave must be notified by the parents or the legal guardians of the pupil.**
- **It is not acceptable that school is not notified of the whereabouts of our pupil.**
- **If the correct procedures are not followed, school will report a pupil missing to Children Missing in Education.**

Reasons why not to book Extended Leave in school time:

- As a school we are inundated with requests for leave. Please, please consider the impact that this has on both your child's education and the staff that work so hard for your children. The time taken to complete the admin paperwork for families that request/take leave in term time (especially when we do not know where families are) is immense. Plus the pressure for teachers when they return to help them to catch up is significant. This all takes time and resources away from children's education in school.
- The lost learning experiences in class can never be relived. Pupils miss school trips and visitors to school which all form part of childhood memories.
- Children's friendships will move on in your child's absence, making it difficult for your child to readjust upon their return leaving the child feeling excluded.
- Lost learning create gaps in understanding which may have a knock on effect in the future beyond primary school.
- Lost time in school creates unnecessary worry and anxiety in children when they realise that their peers and class mate are ahead in learning.
- Teachers and Teaching Assistants time is unfairly taken away from the rest of the class that has been attending school regularly to help children who been on Extended Leave.



Yours faithfully

Mrs L. Rawcliffe

Attendance Manager

School Calendar for 2023-24 (from September 2023).

Green Days are when the school is closed for INSET (training) days

Blue Days are when school is closed for school holidays

September 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		
March 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
May 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
June 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
August 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Thank you to all parents for getting your child to school.

Please help us make your children's dreams come true by being able to provide them a full education and allowing them to be the **best that they can be.**