

15th September 2022

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

MESSAGE FROM MRS HORN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and the new academic year 2022-2023.

It has been so lovely to welcome back existing parents and to say hello to our new families. We are so pleased you have all chosen Mount Street Academy as your child's first school, and we look forward to working with you all.

The children are settling well into their new classrooms and getting used to their new teachers and new routines. Children will always have mixed emotions about transition and about changes. One week all can be well and the next week there may be tears or indeed emotional outbursts. This is all completely normal and to be expected. Make sure you make time to talk with your child(ren) and speak to your child's teacher if you are concerned.

Communication

As a school our main communication channels are Parenthub and Parentmail. Please make sure you sign up to these for you to receive all the most up to date communications.

If you have changed address or phone number over the holiday please communicate the new changes to us either via email or by popping into the school office.

Sad loss of a colleague at Mount Street

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Suzanne Walker, a dear colleague at MSA has died.

Suzanne was a midday supervisor and a playworker and worked with many children on a daily basis. Suzanne loved her work at Mount Street and everyone here loved her. She was the best example of our value of making a difference and nothing was too much trouble for her. She thrived on knowing she was helping the children and staff and we feel her loss keenly.

Due to the age of our children, the fact that Suzanne died before we returned to school following the summer break, we have made the carefully considered decision not to announce this loss to the children as a general announcement. Instead, we are very much following the children's lead and answering questions if/when they arise. You may feel it appropriate that you take the same approach with your children and just be prepared to talk to them about it if/when they ask or talk about her. We have two trained members of staff in grief and loss and as a whole school we follow the approaches from their training with Winston's Wish.

Mrs Horn
Headteacher



RECEPTION NEWS

What a great start we've had in Reception! The children have begun to settle well into the routines and expectations of daily life in our reception classrooms. We are incredibly proud of them! The teachers in reception would just like to take the time to officially welcome you all to our Mount Street family. We have had a busy couple of weeks in reception, our theme which all our learning threads through this term is called "Magical Me." Therefore, the children have been learning all about each other, their families and we have even had time to learn all about our class animal. Can you ask your child a fact about their class animal?

We will start our phonic sessions next week. We can't wait for your child to tell you all about what letter sounds they learn and which cheeky character helps us with our phonics! Please look out for a video coming to you from Mrs Smith and the rest of the English Team about phonics and reading in Reception. It is imperative that you watch this video as this will provide you with all the important information around the teaching of reading here at Mount Street and the logistics regarding reading books and phonic flash cards. If you haven't already, please sign up for parent hub and parent mail as this is the channel in which our notices and videos will be sent to you. If you require support with this, please see the lovely ladies in the main reception office or come and speak to any of the teachers on the door.

Just a gentle reminder that all the children's belongings need their name on or inside (including their lunchboxes and water bottles). We kindly request that children have either a schoolbook bag, a large rucksack or both when they come to school as they will be expected to put work and reading books inside these when transporting them to and from school to keep them protected. All children also will always need a pair of wellies every day in school, as we only wear wellies (regardless of the weather) in our outdoor classroom. We are encouraging your child to be independent as much as possible with their dressing and undressing for PE and with their shoes when changing into wellies. Therefore, we ask that your child has shoes only with laces if they can tie them themselves, velcro shoes are preferable if they cannot tie laces themselves. For supporting independence with toileting, please also consider if your child can manage buttoned trousers/skirts and tights on their own. Elasticated school trousers/skirts with leggings (instead of tights) are really helpful for enabling your child to be independent at the toilets.

PE this term will be on a Monday and taught by your child's class teacher. Your child will get changed into their PE kit in school during this term. Please ensure they always have an indoor PE kit on their peg, this can be left in school for the whole term and we will send this home at the end of term for it to be washed.

Thanks for your support with this.
The Reception Team

PHOTOGRAPHER

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 13th October to take individual photos.

They will be taking photos of nursery children as well. If your child doesn't usually attend on a Thursday, there is the opportunity to bring your child into school for 9.30am to have their picture taken. Please bring your child to the school office and a member of staff will take your child to have their photo taken.

FLU VACCINATION

The Nursing Team will be visiting school on 11th October 2022 for the annual Flu Vaccination. For your child to receive a vaccination you must ensure you complete the NHS online consent form. You can complete this at [Immunisation Consent \(lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk\)](https://www.lincolnshireimmunisations.co.uk) Our School code is **EE137551**.

Please note that the vaccine is only for children in Reception to Year 2.

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We cannot have nuts in school in any form. So please can we ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.

We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check and we know that you recognise the importance of it. We do have to insist we are a nut free school. I know if this was your child you would expect that we all help, especially as it is a life-threatening condition.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

UPDATE—CONTACT DETAILS

Please do let us know if you have a new phone number, e-mail address or have moved house etc so we can keep our records up to date.

Also, if you are wanting other people to collect your child from school, they will need to be added to your child's records.

Many thanks

The School Office

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

At Mount Street Academy our main communication with parents and carers is via Parenthub and Parentmail. Please download these on to your smart device.

- ◇ Parenthub - Once the app is downloaded, create yourself an account and then tap 'Add a School' and enter the handle @Mount_Street. You will then be able to add your child. We mainly use Parenthub for sending out messages/letters/general information.
- ◇ Parentmail—you should have been sent a link to the e-mail address that we have on record for you. Instructions can be found here: [How to Register with ParentMail by Email.pdf](#). We mainly use this for forms, permissions and booking parents evening appointments.

If you have any problems please get in touch with the school office.

PUPIL PREMIUM

Following the introduction of Universal Credit, the way that we can establish whether school is entitled to extra funding for your child has changed. This extra funding is known as Income and Benefits Based Free School Meals – IBFSM (not to be confused with the free meals provided for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2).

It is very important that every parent/carers completes this for all their children in school, even if you do not think you are eligible.

Are you in receipt of any of the benefits below?

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits.

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earning from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income support – Income-based Jobseekers Allowance – Income-related Employment and support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guarantee 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 four weeks after you stop qualifying for working Tax Credit.

Guidance – Create an account using your email address on the online Parent Portal: <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals>

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

If your child is starting primary school or transferring to the first year of junior school in September 2022 they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Applications can be made online at the website below or a telephone application can be made by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782020.

For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport. Queries can be emailed to schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

KEY DATES FOR THE DIARY

- **INSET DAY— School Closed Friday 30th September 2022**
- End of Term 1: Friday 21st October 2022
- Start date of Term 2 : Monday 31st October 2022
- **Open Day—**Wednesday 9th November 2022 - 9.30am, 2.00pm or 5pm Please contact the school office to book a time slot.
- **DREAM Team Assemblies:**
 - Year 2 Friday 7th October 2022 2.30pm
 - Year 1 Friday 16th October 2022 2.30pm
- School Photo's—Thursday 13th October 2022

EMAIL

enquiries@mountstreet.anthemtrust.uk

WEBSITE

www.mountstreetacademy.com