

The Joseph Whitaker School

An Academy specialising in Sport and Performing Arts



25 October 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

In addition to the newsletter I would like to update you on the following.

Remembrance Service Friday 9 November

As part of the Centenary of the end of World War One, the local Vicar and the Royal British Legion will be leading our Remembrance Service. The official service includes some religious content, as per the service held annually at the Cenotaph. All students will be asked to attend the event but all students are free to decide not to participate in the religious element. If any parents are concerned about this please do not hesitate to contact us.

As you will see from the newsletter we are marking this significant historical milestone with a number of events. We are hopeful that students, staff and parents will purchase Remembrance Crosses, write the name of a soldier on the Cross and then place it in front of the Silent Soldier at the front of school. We are encouraging the school community to wear poppies, Tutor Groups to create a poppy wreath, subjects to teach WWI content during the week culminating in the 20 minute service for the whole school on Friday 9 November. The event will end with the planting of two trees to mark the end of the First World War.

Free School Meals and previously Looked after Children

I would encourage all parents to claim free school meals if you believe you may be eligible, even if you do not intend to utilise the school canteen. The school funding mechanism takes account of the number of children eligible for free school meals and therefore we may be missing out on some much needed funding. Additionally, a new funding measure linked to children designated as Previously Looked After has been introduced. If either of these categories apply to your child please contact Mrs Chappell-Lane in the Data Office.

Morning drop-offs

Despite my last plea the number of parents using the Sports Hall Car Park to drop students during the mornings has not abated. Please use the bus park to drop students off on a morning to reduce traffic into the small road leading to the Sports Hall. Unfortunately if this continues we will be forced to close the gates causing even greater congestion and inconvenience in the short term.

Yours sincerely

David Bell
Headteacher



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