



Messages from Redfield's Senior Leadership Team



Redfield Educate Together Primary Academy

September 27th 2024

We are halfway through our first term now and it has been a busy one so far. The children have all come back full of enthusiasm and have done themselves proud so far.

On Friday 20th September, we celebrated 10 years since the opening of RET in Redfield and the first Educate Together school in the UK. Thank you to all of the parents who contributed to the parties – the children had a lovely time celebrating with their classes. We were pleased to see how calm the children were whilst also having lots of fun. As well as parties, each child received a commemorative book donated by FORET – a huge thank you to FORET for funding and organising this for the children.



We had Fitz Harding, the captain of Bristol Bears delivered a couple of rugby workshops for some children who have consistently demonstrated our school rules of 'Being Kind, Safe and Ready'. He led a rugby coaching sessions followed by a question-and-answer session. The children were so engaged and inspired by this visit.

Last week Year 5 had visit from Catherine Bruton to lead a writing workshop. The children were able to share their ideas and develop an understanding of her writing process before developing their own writing skills and catch a few snippets of her upcoming book 'Bird Boy'.

A huge thank you to Small City Bookshop who organised this for us. You can buy a copy of Catherine's book from their shop on Church Road or via this link to receive a 10% discount.

<https://www.themallcitybookshop.co.uk/product-page/bird-boy> Please choose 'collection from school' as delivery method.

Reminders:

This week the Travelling Book Fair, will be in the main hall **3.30-4.15** on the following days:

Monday 30th September – Reception and Year 3

Tuesday 1st October – Year 1 and Year 4

Wednesday 2nd October – Year 2 and Year 5

Thursday 3rd October – Year 6 and last chance to buy (all welcome!)

You will be able to pay by cash or card



Harvest Festival

On Friday, 4th October 2:30-3:15pm Year 3 and 4 will be leading Harvest Festivals celebrations in the main hall. Parents/carers welcome to watch their performance. This is on our Annual Planner and calendar section of the website.

Attendance Matters

Excellent attendance enables children to achieve and make progress in their learning as well as develop, establish and maintain the important friendships and social experiences they value so much. Your child should attend school unless they are too unwell to do so. It can be tricky sometimes to know if your child is too unwell to attend school or whether they can be in. The NHS provide information on illness and school attendance on their website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please notify the school office as soon as possible. If we have not been notified, our office staff will make a safeguarding call to find out the reason for your child's absence. Where we are unable to contact parents/carers to find out a reason for absence, we will record the absence as unauthorised. Concerns about an unauthorised absence or number of unauthorised absences may result in our attendance team contacting parents to discuss any issues that are causing a barrier to school attendance and how we can support families to resolve them.

Term time leave of absence request

As of this September, there is updated legislation on school attendance set out in the 2024 attendance regulations and this legislation is reflected in updated statutory guidance from the DFE (Working Together to improve school attendance) which schools must follow. The updates include several significant changes for parents to be aware of. Two of the key changes are:

- Schools will now only be able to grant leave for specific circumstances set out in regulation 11 of the 2024 attendance regulations.
- A new national framework for penalty notices issued for poor attendance and unexplained/unauthorised absences. Penalty notices have increased from £80 if paid within 21 days and £180 if paid after 21 days and before 28 days.

We are committed to supporting all of our children and families to establish and maintain high levels of attendance. If you need support with any issues making it harder for your child to attend school, please talk to your child's teacher or contact our office and ask to speak to a member of our attendance team.

Punctuality – drop off & pick up

We would like to remind you of the importance of punctuality at the start and end of the school day at Redfield Educate Together.

The school gates open at **8:45am** and close promptly at **8:55am**. We kindly request that parents and carers dropping off younger children at their classrooms do so promptly within this 10-minute window. This ensures a smooth start to the day for all our pupils.

Similarly, at the end of the school day, the gates open at **3:25pm** and close at **3:35pm**. We ask that all children are collected by the time the gates close. We understand that some

children may become anxious if not collected on time, and we aim to avoid any unnecessary worry by encouraging parents and carers to arrive promptly at the end of the day.

All Weather School

Thank you for your feedback regarding our return to being all-weather school. The recent weather has certainly put us to the test!

To help keep your child comfortable during wet weather, we suggest they bring a pair of wellington boots to school. This will allow them to keep their school shoes dry during break times. Children can also bring a change of clothes to keep on their peg in school in case they get wet and need to change. Our staff will also remind children to take their coats out for breaks and to wear them with zips and hoods up.

We understand some parents have concerns about outdoor play in all weather. However, playing outside is beneficial for children's physical health and social skills and helps build resilience. Once our pupil voice groups are active again, we will discuss these benefits with the children.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can ensure a positive experience for our children, whatever the weather!

Mobile phones

As part of our safeguarding measures, mobile phones may only be brought to school by Year 5 and Year 6 children who are walking to or from school independently. This aims to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our students.

Once on school premises, phones must be switched off and handed to the class teacher at the beginning of the day. This procedure is designed to minimise distractions during lessons and to foster an environment conducive to learning.

Additionally, we wish to emphasise that if a child is unable to take the responsibility of managing their mobile phone in accordance with our guidelines, we request that phones be kept at home. The responsibility of managing these devices should be taken seriously, and we appreciate your support in helping instill this sense of responsibility in our children.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter, as your support plays a crucial role in maintaining a safe and productive school environment.



Redfield
Educate Together

PLEASE TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE
ENERGY YOU BRING TO SCHOOL.

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Your words matter.
Your behaviours matter.
Our pupils, staff, parents/carers
and community matter.

TAKE A SLOW, DEEP BREATH AND
MAKE SURE YOUR ENERGY IS IN
CHECK BEFORE ENTERING
OUR SCHOOL SITE.