

Wednesday 19th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the first week back, Mrs Dunning and I had the pleasure of spending almost two hours with a group of parents for our first parent coffee morning of this academic year. During this time, we shared information about the school's improvement journey so far and received some valuable feedback too.

Water bottles:

One of the issues raised was around water bottles and pupils having access to these throughout the school day. We shared with parents that we often keep them in a central location in classrooms, but it was felt that children do not then drink as regularly as they should. We all know how important it is for children to stay hydrated, so we are keen to support them in increasing their daily intake of water.

We are pleased to inform you that we now have access to **filtered, cool water** on each of our school corridors via new water dispensers. This means that your child will be able to refill their water bottle when it empties and will be able to access cool water when the weather begins to warm up too.

To ensure that parent feedback is acted on fully, we have reminded all staff that children must have free access to their water bottles throughout the school day, including in lessons. We have also placed an order for small storage baskets so that bottles can be stored on classroom tables, without the risk of them falling over and spilling onto children's work. We hope to have these in place in the next few weeks.

Uniform:

The second issue raised related to our school uniform and the inconsistencies in what pupils are wearing. This is something that school are aware of and have purposely not pursued because of the varying financial impacts felt by families during the pandemic.

However, school uniform is an extremely important part of our school identity, and it is important that pupils comply with the rules around what should and should not be worn in school. This not only demonstrates pride in belonging to our school but also sets the tone for behaviour expectations and prepares children for the levels of compliance expected at secondary school.

Sutton Park Primary Uniform:

The compulsory uniform for Sutton Park Primary is:

- Sutton Park Primary sweatshirt/cardigan (with SP logo, no plain sweatshirts/cardigans)
- White polo shirt (SP logo embroidered is preferred)
- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore
- Grey tights/socks
- Black school shoes (no trainers)

PE:

Pupils should continue to come to school in their PE kits on their designated PE days. Pupils remain in their PE kits all day and do not need to bring uniform to change into.

For PE, the compulsory uniform is:

- Burgundy sports t-shirt (must have SP logo)
- Black shorts (shorts with SP logo are available and preferred)
- Black PE pumps/trainers for outdoors
- Plain black tracksuits can also be worn due to children wearing their PE kits all day.

Orders for uniform should be placed via: <https://www.schoolwearsolutions.com/product-category/our-schools/sutton-park-primary-school/>

The uniform expectations for our school have been shared regularly via newsletters, induction information packs and on our website. We will be monitoring school uniform closely this half term and will begin issuing reminder letters to those who are not wearing correct uniform/footwear.

To support families in getting the uniform needed, we will be asking for any old or unused uniform to be sent into school. Parents who attended the coffee morning spoke about having multiple uniform items at home that their children had grown out of and no longer had use for. It was suggested that these could be collected in by school and then a uniform event facilitated after school for parents to see if there were any items they needed. We are happy to provide this opportunity and will be in touch with a date before February half term.

If you have any old uniform with plenty of life left in it, or any unused uniform that children grew out of during school closures, please send this into school next week. We will be collecting in all uniform items including skirts, trousers, polo shirts, sweatshirts and school shoes. We will then sort through and organise the items, ready for the uniform event.

During the coffee morning, we received some fantastic positive feedback about our school. Hearing parent reflections on the progress we have made so far and the positive impact this is having on pupils we serve was wonderful. We look forward to hosting another coffee morning event in the summer term. In the meantime if you have any questions, queries or feedback you would like to share, please get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Middleton
Head of School

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