

Primary phase newsletter

Friday 2nd september 2022

Creating Tomorrow's Citizens Today



All-through news

Dear Families

We do hope that you have managed to enjoy the lovely weather and everyone can come back to school refreshed. We have already made so many plans for the start of this Autumn Term 2022, and are looking forward to returning to our usual busy calendar of events and opportunities. During the summer, the work on repairing and replacing the 1950's water pipes has started; the big flexible classroom has yet to arrive and the security fencing will happen shortly. We were delighted that so many of the new Y7 came to our very special summer school- an excellent way to make friends and familiarise themselves with the site, before term starts.

We are welcoming new staff to our community - see below for the relevant information relating to each phase. We are also welcoming obviously our new Y7, our new sixth form (internal and external candidates) and several families who are joining due to vacancies in a year group, whereby someone has moved out of Hertford.

The first biggest celebration event will be the return of our Open Morning on Saturday 24 September- the first since 2019. This year we are opening both the Larch Centre (for potential reception intake, Sept 2023) and also the secondary (for Y7 in September 2023). There will be more details to follow but please note that we expect all of our secondary students to be involved in some way on that morning, albeit giving guided tours, or demonstrating in classrooms, sports or performing arts.

We start then by welcoming all students back on Monday 5th September. We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Reminder

If your child requires medication that you would like us to hold at the school could you please send it in or bring it in on their first day back. You will need to fill out a Med 1 form. If you do not have access to this please contact us via our admin email admin@simonballe.herts.sch.uk

Primary news

We look forward to welcoming back all Larch children on Monday 5th September. We hope everybody has had a wonderful break and enjoyed the weather, whether here or away. Just a few reminders here to help everybody settle back next week.

- We welcome all parents in Years 1 - 6 to **parent information evening** on **Tuesday 6th September**: Phase 1 (Year 1 only) at 4.30pm, Phase 2 (Years 2 - 4) at 5.00pm and Phase 3 (Years 5 - 6) at 5.30pm. All will take place in the hall, and all teachers will be present. Meetings will last no longer than 30 minutes. We aim to welcome you to the teachers working with your child this year, inform you of some important aspects of the curriculum and practical information, and allow you to ask any questions that you need to at this stage. For reasons of space, only 1 parent to attend from each family please. If you are unable to attend in person, slides will be emailed to all the following day.
Reception parents will meet on **Monday 12th September at 6.30pm**, following children's positive transition to joining us in the Larch.

- On **Friday 9th September**, it is **Roald Dahl** day - back by popular demand! Children in year groups Reception - Year 5 all study a Roald Dahl text as part of our literary canon at Simon Balle, so it is a wonderful day to take part in to begin the year by celebrating our love of reading in the Larch! Children can dress up as any Roald Dahl character, or simply to wear yellow as this was Roald Dahl's favourite colour. Thank you in anticipation of your support.
- Finally, as we begin the year, a reminder of who you can contact if you need to **communicate** with us in the Larch.
 - For all day to day queries, including absence/attendance, please email larch@simonballe.herts.sch.uk. Mrs Harding will respond to these or send them on to the most appropriate member of staff. She is also joined in the office this year by Mr Cozzi, who we warmly welcome to the team.
 - For questions regarding curriculum or the specifics of teaching and learning, please contact your child's class teacher - all email addresses are in the same format as mine here kirk@simonballe.herts.sch.uk
 - If you need to communicate with a primary leader, please contact Miss Hesketh for phase 1 (Reception and Year 1) - heskethk@simonballe.herts.sch.uk; Miss Ridley for phase 2 (Years 2 - 4) - ridleyt@simonballe.herts.sch.uk; and Mrs Boyce for phase 3 (Years 5 - 6) - boycek@simonballe.herts.sch.uk
 - For anything related to PE, please email Mrs Riddle - riddler@simonballe.herts.sch.uk
 - Mrs Boyce is now also an Assistant Headteacher across the all-through, so if you need to speak to a Senior Leader, please email either her or I.

Have a great weekend, do please complete your child's reading record for all of their wonderful summer reading, and we hope they enjoy putting their finishing touches to their summer holiday learning.

We very much look forward to welcoming all back on Monday, and we look forward to an exciting term ahead full of lots of enriching and enjoyable experiences.

Mrs Kirk (Vice Principal)

Mrs Boyce (Assistant Headteacher)

