



THE BEST FROM EVERYONE, ALL OF THE TIME

The Word

4TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Head teacher's Round Up

It's great to be back!

A very warm welcome back to school and the academic year for 2020/21. It has been so uplifting to see all our Light Hall students again and to welcome them back to school and to learning. They certainly seemed pleased to be back and able to see all their friends and teachers again.

We were delighted to greet our new year 7 students on Wednesday. They are already settling in very well, getting to know each other and the Light Hall way.

Everyone in school is quickly learning the new procedures and how to operate in their zones in school.

Thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your support in ensuring that our students arrive punctually, look smart and are aware of guidelines they need to follow in order to keep themselves and everyone safe.

We welcome several new staff to our team this academic year; Mr Wainwright has joined our English department, Mr Tat has joined Maths, Miss Athar will be teaching ICT, Mr Homer will be teaching Music, Miss Dhanjal and Mr Jones will be teaching Science, Miss Hughes will be teaching Design Technology, Mrs King will be teaching Food Technology and Miss Morgan will be teaching Drama, We are delighted that these teachers have joined our Light Hall team and know that our students will make them feel very welcome.

Well done to everyone for a fabulous start to the academic year. We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

My best wishes for a good weekend.



Start/Finish times for September

Year	Start	End
7	8.45am	2.55pm
8	8.45am	2.55pm
9	8.45am	3.00pm
10	8.45am	3.00pm
11	8.45am	3.00pm

Visitors

There will be **NO** visitors in school. Meetings will be conducted by telephone or virtually as a preferred method (with appropriate safety measures). Email is the most efficient form of communication. Please also use the website for information / SIMS parent app / twitter.

WORD OF THE WEEK

BELIEVE

Dictionary Definition: To have confidence in the truth, the existence, or the reliability of something, although without absolute proof that one is right in doing so.

What subjects can this word be used in?

What is the meaning of this word in each of these subjects?

Compose a sentence with the word 'believe' in for each of these subjects.

School Uniform

Students are required to attend in full Light Hall uniform at all times. Information has been sent out to families about purchasing the correct uniform. Any issues should have been addressed to Mrs Kimblin or Heads of House. When students are timetabled for PE, they are expected to **attend** in Light Hall PE kit. They will not be able to change at school. In the event of inclement weather, the PE department will take students to a classroom. Unfortunately, there will be no after school sports clubs, or any after school extra-curricular clubs until further notice. This will be under constant review. When it is safe to do so, and the school is operating effectively, they will be reintroduced.

Year 9 Ties

For parent/carers of Year 9 students, due to the change in options this year we are happy for them to wear upper/lower ties. From September 2021, upper ties will be for Year 10 and Year 11 students only.

Illness

If your child is ill, please email the school. Please do not send your child to school if they show any symptoms of covid 19. Please be available to collect your child if they fall ill during the school day, they will need to be sent home immediately.

Parking

Please be reminded to park within the law and be considerate to our neighbours when dropping off and collecting your children.

Bike safety

As the students have come back to school, can you please remind the students that travel to school on their bikes to wear a helmet, and appropriate safety wear.

Contactless Parent Pay Cards

At this time, this will not operate in its usual format. The only food available to buy in school will be a cold packed lunch or one hot vegetarian takeaway option. The cashless system will still operate but without biometric data (thumb prints) to avoid touch points. Parents who wish their children to purchase a lunch, in school, should ensure that parent pay has sufficient funds for them to do so. We recommend that in the early part of the term, students bring their own packed lunch, where this is possible. Each zone will have this food provision at second break only. All students have been issued with a card. It is important that if they lose their card that you contact the school immediately. There is a £1 fee for a replacement card but this is subject to increase.

SIMS Parent App

Just a reminder to all parents/carers that we are in Week 1 and to sign up to the SIMS parent app. You can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC – anytime, anywhere.

What will you find in the SIMS Parent app:

- Important information such as attendance and achievement
- School term, inset dates and contact details available at the click of a button
- Access your child's school report
- Receive notifications to remind you about important information such as key dates for your diary
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency.
- If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to information for all your children, from the same app.
- The information that you receive through the app will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's school life as well as support your child's development and progress.

GETTING STARTED WITH THE SIMS PARENT APP

1. We will send you an activation email, simply click on the link from your tablet, PC or smartphone to activate your account. If you have not received an email or the link has expired please email office@lighthall.co.uk. Please leave your name, your child's name and your child's tutor group and your invitation will be resent.
2. The invitation will be sent to the email address that we have on our SIMS Database, please ensure you check your junk mail if you do not receive an email.
3. You can then login using your normal **Facebook, Twitter, Google** or **Microsoft** username and password.
4. From your smartphone or tablet, download the app from the Google Play or Apple App store – search for **SIMS Parent**.
5. From a PC or Windows phone, login online at www.sims-parent.co.uk

Please note that your activation email is unique to you and should not be used by anyone else. If you require an additional login, then please contact your school.

Your activation email will expire after 14 days if it is not used, please contact your school if you require a replacement after this date.

Thought for the Week

The Power of Books

International Literacy Day 8th September

International Literacy Day 2020 focuses on “Literacy teaching and learning in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond,” especially on the role of educators. The theme highlights literacy learning in a lifelong learning perspective, and therefore, mainly focuses on youth and adults. The recent Covid-19 crisis has been a stark reminder of the existing gap that negatively affects the learning of youth and adults who have no or low literacy skills, and therefore, tend to face multiple disadvantages. During COVID-19, in many countries, most adult literacy programmes were suspended, with just a few courses continuing virtually, through TV and radio, or in open air spaces.

Of course, in schools we are all too aware of the impact that missing several months of face to face learning can have on our students. Which is why it is more important than ever to stress the power of books, the power of reading, and the importance of learning to our students.

Shop reminder

The school shop is still available to offer stationery, ties, planners and badges. The items can be purchased by ParentPay. Due to Covid restrictions we will make sure they get taken to your child's form.

Reading Test

An email has been sent to all Year 7, 8 and 9 Parents/Carers this week regarding a reading test for your child. Please see below:

In order to support your child in the coming months, we have asked them to complete a reading test as homework this week. There is nothing to feel anxious about. This will help us support students in lessons accordingly. The test is done electronically and will last approximately 20-30 minutes. There are no plans to share the results. Please don't be tempted to help them as this will skew results and may mean them missing out on any support. Should students not be able to complete the test, we will be supporting them in school next week.

Extra curricular activities

Due to Covid – 19 there will be no extracurricular activities for the time being.

Bus Timetable

At the time of publication National Express are unable to confirm their arrangements for September. As soon as we are aware of confirmed arrangements we will share this via email. This is unfortunately out of our control. Parents are encouraged to follow government guidance on travel arrangements. We have received a link from Transport for West Midlands, which if you sign up, gives you access to their updates. www.tfwm.org.uk/schooltravel

863 Yardley Wood to Light Hall School via Peterbrook School

Monday to Friday

from 30th August 2020

	Sch	Sch
Yardley Wood Bus Garage	0810	0819
Peterbrook School	0816	0825
Light Hall School	0824	0833

Sch: Schooldays Only

863 Light Hall School to Yardley Wood via Peterbrook School

Monday to Friday

from 30th August 2020

	Sch	Sch
Light Hall School	1504	1505
Peterbrook School	1512	1514
Yardley Wood Bus Garage	1516	1519

Sch: Schooldays Only