

Cann Hall Primary School

Constable Avenue, Clacton, Essex CO16 8DA

Tel: 01255 420603

Email: chcontact@compassps.uk

Website: www.cannhall.compassps.uk

Head Teacher:

Sarah Crookes

Deputy Head Teacher:

Wendy Byrne



Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday. We are really looking forward to welcoming you and the children back into school on **Wednesday 6th September**, and hearing what they have been up to!



Baxter and I had a lovely holiday in France. We enjoyed trips to the beach and visits to beautiful towns and villages. He met lots of new people and other dogs, and did very well understanding the French language!

Improvements to our school environment

Mr Swain has been busy over the summer, along with painters and other contractors, carrying out different works at our school.

We finally have a shelter in our EYFS area and new astroturf, and the classrooms in EYFS, year 1 and year 2 have been painted.



There is new screening along the fence of the nature area, and the parts of the adventure trail have been repaired.

We have more decoration works happening over the Autumn term too.



Reminder - Extension of the School Day

Before we broke up for the summer holidays, we wrote to let you know about the slight change we have had to make to our school day, to ensure that we are following government guidelines.

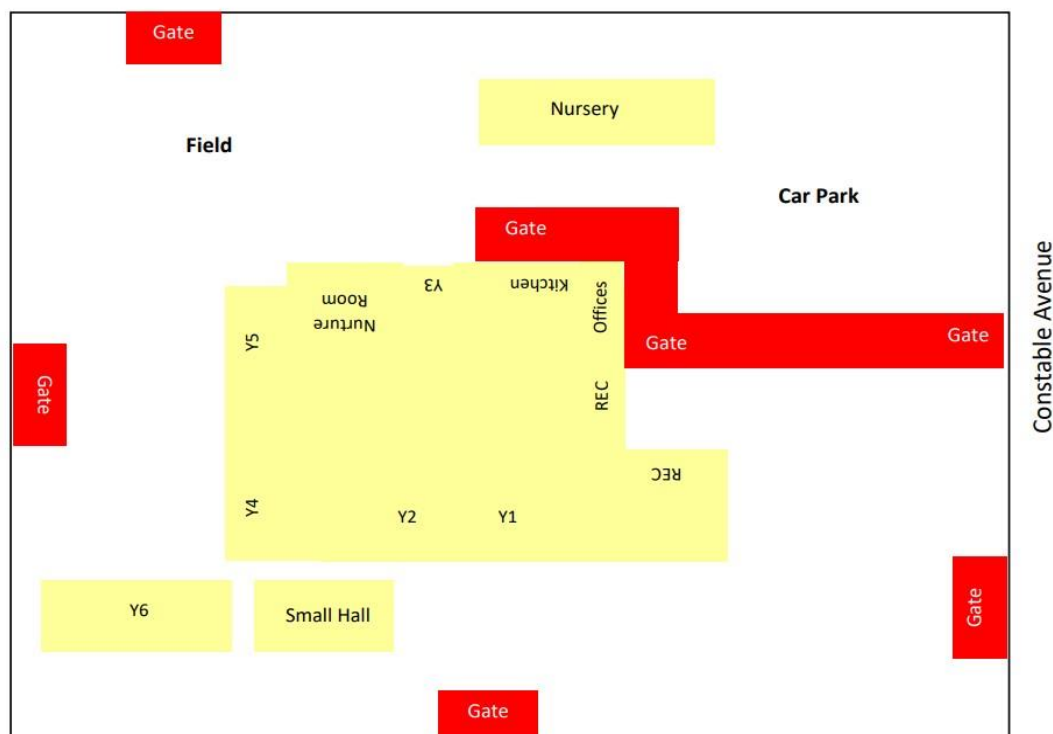
In the mornings, the school gates will still be open at 8.30am and close at 8.40am, to take the register at this point. **The main change will be at the end of the school day, where the children will now be released at 3.10am. We will open the school gates at 3.05pm to give you time to make your way to your child's classroom. The gates will then be closed at 3.15pm.**



Reminder - Entrance and Exit Gates

Below is a map showing your choice of entrances and exits. **The only change this year is that we will be opening the small gate, next to the Y3 classrooms, instead of the double car park gates.** If using this entrance, please access it by walking through the main office gates and past the kitchen and not through the car park.

Whichever entrance/exit is most convenient to you can be used, when dropping off and collecting your children each day. We only ask that for health and safety reasons, you do not park on the yellow lines, in front of the school or in the staff car park, unless you have a pre-arranged agreement with the school.



Attendance

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

For a child to reach their full educational achievement a high level of school attendance is essential. We are committed to providing an education of the highest quality for all our children and we endeavour to provide an environment in which all pupils feel valued, safe and welcome. Parents and children play an important part in making our schools successful. Every child has a right to access the education to which they are entitled. Parents and teachers share the responsibility for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality for all.

For our children to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered it is vital your child is at school, **on time, every day** the school is open, unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. The routines children develop around attendance and punctuality at school are the same as the expectations of any future employer in the world of work. High attainment, confidence with peers and staff, and future aspirations, all depend on good attendance.

Good attendance is important because:

- statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and absence below 95%
- regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically
- regular attenders find school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with
- regular attenders are more successful in transferring between primary school, secondary school, and higher education, employment or training.

Responsibilities of parents and carers

Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is a parent/carer's legal responsibility (section 444 of the 1996 Education Act) and permitting absence from school that is not authorised by the school creates an offence in law.



Our attendance ladder clearly shows what we expect in terms of good attendance at school, and our policy informs you further of what happens when attendance falls below certain levels. You can find a copy of our policy on the [website](#).

In summary, if your child's attendance falls below 90%, you will receive a letter to alert you of this and when we feel it is necessary, home visits will also be arranged. If your child's attendance falls below 96%, we will require evidence to authorise any further absence. Holidays will not be authorised.

Lateness also affects your child's attendance so please try to ensure that your child arrives at school before the gates

close, each morning at 8.40am. You can check your child's current attendance using the 'My Child at School App'.

Parents and carers must:

- inform the school on the first day of absence
- be clear about the reason for the absence to enable us to determine if the absence will be authorised
- inform school of any unavoidable planned absences well in advance
- support the school with their child in aiming for **100% attendance** each year
- make sure that any absence is clearly accounted for by telephone or email on subsequent days of absence, or by letter if a phone is unavailable
- avoid taking their child out of school for non-urgent medical or dental appointments
- only request leave of absence if it is for an exceptional circumstance.

School Uniform

Here is a reminder of our approach to school uniform. Full information can be found on our website using this link [Cann Hall Primary School - Uniform \(compassps.uk\)](https://www.compassps.uk) Please note there are a few small changes, which have been highlighted in blue.

Uniform Requirements:

- Red gingham dresses
- School grey skirts/trousers/pinafore dresses of appropriate length, no leggings
- Red polo shirt
- Navy sweatshirts/cardigans (no hoodies)
- White socks/grey tights
- School grey or black trousers (short or long)
- Red polo shirts
- Navy sweat shirts
- Black/grey socks
- No 'skins' to be worn underneath school uniform.



FOOTWEAR:

We ask that all children wear sensible black shoes, **boots or black trainers**. Any other trainers, baseball boots and light-weight canvas shoes of any colour are unacceptable, along with sandals. Wellington Boots may be worn in wet weather, but please ensure that your child has another pair of shoes to change into on arrival at school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORTS:

School PE kits, as stated below, should be worn to school on your child's PE days with a school jumper or cardigan.

1. Black plimsolls or trainers, (preferably with elastic fronts rather than laces for infant children)
2. Plain red T-shirt, or logo T-shirts (available at the office)
3. Black shorts- no leggings
4. Plain grey or black tracksuit for colder weather



Children are not permitted (in line with Health & Safety guidelines) to wear earrings for PE and these must be removed by the child.

Pupil Premium Entitlement

All Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, so for the first few years of their school life, school meals are free. As well as this, families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for additional funding called **Pupil Premium**, which is used to support the children in school academically, towards trips, school uniform and clubs.

Your child would be eligible for this funding, if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Universal credit with an annual income of no more than £7,400 (after tax and before benefits)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

If you think your child could be eligible for this additional funding, please do contact the school office and we will be very happy to help you with the application form.

Healthy Snacks

You are very welcome to send your child into school each day with a 'healthy snack' for them to eat at break time and we encourage you to send them in everyday with a drink of water or sugar free squash (no glass bottles).



Please see below the acceptable healthy snacks which have been agreed on as a school:

- plain biscuits, for example, rich tea, digestives
- breadsticks
- fruit (fresh or dried)
- vegetable or salad sticks
- plain rice cakes
- plain crackers

Children in EYFS – Y2 receive a weekly delivery of fresh fruit or vegetables, which they are offered at snack time, each day.

School Dinner Payment

If your child is in Years 3-6, you would like them to receive a school meal and they are not eligible to Pupil Premium, please ensure that there is sufficient credit in their dinner account, which is accessed through your **'My Child at School'** app. If you have any problems with this, please pop into the office and we will be happy to help.



How to keep up to date with news and events

There are lots of ways to keep up with news and events happening here at Cann Hall.

We email out a weekly newsletter to parents and carers every Friday, which can also be found on our website [Cann Hall Primary School - Home \(compassps.uk\)](https://www.cannhallprimaryschool.com/home). Our PTA also post lots of information on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofcannhallschoolPTA> . We will be moving to Instagram very soon but in the meantime, you can still follow us on X at <https://twitter.com/home>

Baxter's Visits



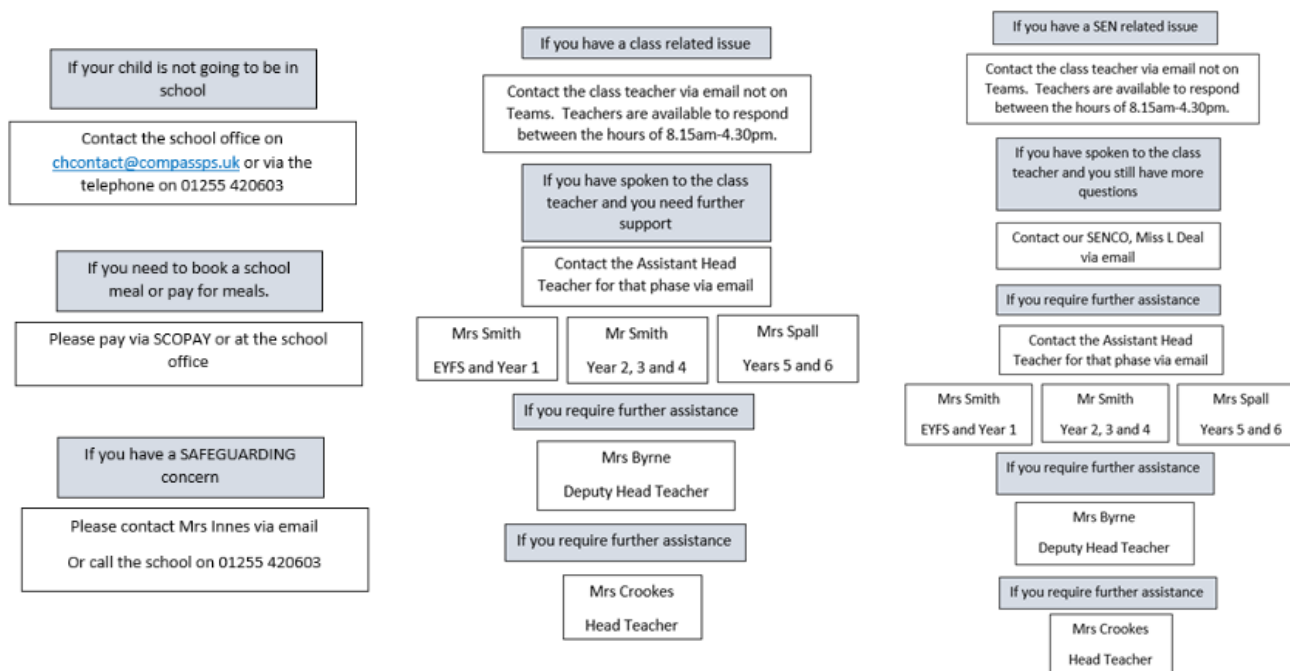
For our new children joining the school this September, Baxter is a large labradoodle, who is 6 years old, and very friendly.

He loves meeting new people, especially children. He likes being stroked and going for walks, as well as having lots of naps. He can get really excited when he meets you, and so it is important that we stay calm and keep our voices quiet, so that he calms quickly too. You will be able to tell that he is happy and excited, because his tail will be wagging. He might also bring you a toy to show you, but please don't take it off him – he isn't very good at sharing!

Please be assured that we have the appropriate insurances in place for the school, and for Baxter. He is looking forward to returning to school this week. His first day back will be Wednesday. I will be reviewing and updating the risk assessment this term. If your child has any fears or allergies of dogs, please email the school office who will pass this information on to me.

Communication Plan

Here is the school's communication plan, for your information. It outlines which staff member would be your first point of contact, if you have a particular issue you would like to discuss. Also listed are the staff school email addresses.



Name	Job Title	Email Address
Adam Giles	Teacher	agiles@compassps.uk
Adrienne Byrne	Teacher	abyrne@compassps.uk
Aleighsha Manning	Deputy SENCo/Teacher	amanning@compassps.uk
Amanda Ross	Teacher	aross@compassps.uk
Becky Rogers	Teacher	brogers@compassps.uk
Bethany Argent-Hudson	Teacher	Bargent-hudson@compassps.uk
Carla Mason	Teacher	cmason@compassps.uk
Caroline Smith	Assistant Headteacher	csmith@compassps.uk
Charles Abrehart-Briggs	Teacher	cabrehart-briggs@compassps.uk
Claire Hollamby-Harding	Teacher	chollamby-harding@compassps.uk
Claire Spall	Assistant Headteacher Senior Mental Health Lead	cspall@compassps.uk
Emma Levy	Teacher	elevy@compassps.uk
Laura Deal	SENCO/Assistant Headteacher	ldeal@compassps.uk
Laura Wooler	Teacher	lwooler@compassps.uk
Lianne Deal	Teacher	ldeal1@compassps.uk

Name	Job Title	Email Address
Lisa Burgess	Teacher	lburgess@compassps.uk
Matthew Smith	Assistant Headteacher	msmith@compassps.uk
Nick Roberts	Teacher	nroberts@compassps.uk
Peter Turner	Teacher	pturner1@compassps.uk
School Office	Admin Staff	chcontact@compassps.uk
Sarah Crookes	Headteacher	scrookes@compassps.uk
Sarah McWilliams	Learning Mentor	smcwilliams@compassps.uk
Susan Innes	Safeguarding Lead and Pastoral Manager	sinnes@compassps.uk
Wendy Byrne	Deputy Headteacher	wbyrne@compassps.uk

Upcoming dates for your diary

Children return to school on 6.9.2023

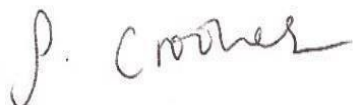
Half Term 23.10.2023 to 27.10.2023

Non-Pupil Day 30.10.23

Christmas Holidays 21.12.2023 to 3.1.2024

We look forward to seeing you all bright and early in the morning!

Kindest regards,



Sarah Crookes