

Court Fields School

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Headteacher: Mrs P Matthews

CEO: Mrs S Watson

May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We are thrilled to confirm that arrangements are now well underway for our new Year 7 cohort to join us at Court Fields School at the start in September.

At this time, students can feel a mixture of emotions – excitement at the prospect of new opportunities, nervousness at the scale of a secondary school and the number of new people to be met, and a little sad to be leaving the primary school they know so well. We hope to remove any worries during the **Transition Days on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th July** when all the students who will be transferring in September come for a two-day experience of life at our school, ready for their start in September.

Welcome Day Arrangements

Tuesday 4th July: students should arrive at the School Hall at Court Fields at 9.30am. The usual practice is that students who attend Beech Grove, St John's, Rockwell Green and Wellesley Park attend their respective primary school as usual and are then escorted to Court Fields by primary staff. Families of students who attend other primary schools will need to arrange to transport the students directly to Court Fields ready for the Welcome Day at 9.30am. The students will leave at 3.00pm to go home directly, or should be collected from the Sports Hall. Should you wish your child to walk home directly, please ensure the permission slip included in the information pack, which will be sent out at the end of June, is completed and handed to the tutor on Tuesday 4th July.

The students will need to attend in their primary school uniform both days and bring their primary PE kit on Wednesday. We have been fortunate in securing funding from Conway Cladding to provide each child with a ready filled pencil case, which will be given out when they arrive. These should be restocked as necessary by parents as the children move through their time at Court Fields.

Wednesday 5th July: students should come straight to Court Fields and arrive by **8.35am** so that they can register in their allocated room (which they will know from the first day) and follow a full day of learning experiences. The programme on this day is designed to give an introduction to the school's routines, and to some of the specialist areas and facilities. Students will leave at 3.10pm on Wednesday afternoon in the same manner as Tuesday. A copy of the programme for the two days will be enclosed in the pack.

During the two days, our Year 7 Transition Leaders will be supporting the students in classes and escorting them around the school.



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Lunchtime Arrangements

To enable students get a taste of our canteen experience, we have arranged for students to be provided with a cooked lunch and dessert on both of the days. We will be providing meat and vegetarian options. The induction day menu is included in the information sent to the primary schools, including allergen information. Please do contact the school office if your child has any specific dietary requirements, alternatively, students may choose to bring a packed lunch, which will be eaten, in the Hall. Students will have a mid-morning break on Tuesday and Wednesday and will request students bring a snack for these times. Any student eligible for free school meals will receive the cooked meal option on both days. If you think that you may be eligible for free school meals then please visit <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-learning-and-schools/school-life/free-school-meals> where you can either fill in the online form or print a paper copy which should then either be returned to Ms K Anderson in the main school office or sent directly to Entitlements Team, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY.

Year 7 Residential

We are in the final stages of securing our Year 7 residential that will take place in early-October at The Ultimate Adventure Centre in Bideford. We will provide full information at the transition evening. We are finalising the cost as we are committed to making the residential as affordable as possible, and we are covering the cost of coaches ourselves to help keep costs to parents as low as possible. The final cost will be around £175 for a 3 day, 2 night residential, including transport, food and accommodation, which is around £100 cheaper than PGL or other local alternatives.

Year 6 Parents/Carers Meeting – Wednesday 5th July

We will be holding a meeting during the evening of Wednesday 5th July for all parents/carers. It is essential that you attend even if you have older children at the school as there will be some different information shared. This will provide additional information to help students to make a positive transfer in September. There is limited space in the Hall, so only Year 6 students and their parents/carers can be accommodated. Due to the size of the year group we will hold two sessions:

Session 1: Parents and Carers and children transferring from Beech Grove, Langford Budville, Rockwell Green and Sampford Arundel. At **6.00pm** there will be a presentation in the **School Hall** by the Headteacher. From **6.30pm** onwards there is an opportunity to meet pastoral and support staff in the **Sports Hall**.

Session 2: Parents and Carers and children transferring from Wellesley Park, St John's, Milverton, West Buckland and all other schools. At **6.00pm** there is an opportunity to meet pastoral and support staff in the **Sports Hall** then at **6.35pm** there will be a presentation in the **School Hall** by Mrs Matthews, Mrs Westwood and Mr Nicholls.

School Uniform and PE Kit

South West School Wear (suppliers of all uniform) will be providing uniform samples for you to see during the evening.

All uniform is available to try on and purchase from the South West School Wear shop in East Reach, Taunton or online – <https://www.swschoolwear.co.uk> Blazers, jumpers, the school skirt and PE tops

Blazers and jumpers are also available from www.trutexdirect.com.

All students will wear the same tie and houses will be shown via a blazer badge, which will be on sale at the parents meeting, the tie cost £4.25, the house badge is free for the first and £1 per replacement. The PE kit for year 7 is the black PE top. We recommend the new half zip long sleeve top as an additional layer for PE. These are more durable for sports and to wash/wear. PE hoodies are not allowed for Year 7. Black football socks as well as white sports socks are required. The PE will no longer be specific to their houses.

School uniform MUST BE named and we recommend that you use woven name tapes in all school clothing, or a permanent marker pen.

Dictionaries and Calculators

We are recommending to parents/carers that all students entering Year 7 should have their own copies of The Oxford School French Dictionary and English Dictionary. These will be on sale from Southwest Uniforms or any bookshop retailer.

The school's Maths Department recommend that all students have the same calculator and these will also be on sale for £8.40 which can be purchased on the Transition Evening.

Year 6 Information Pack

Your primary school will be giving out a Data Collection Pack at the end of June. Please return all forms completed via your child on Tuesday 4th July. It is vital these are returned on that day to ensure all our admin processes are carried out prior to September. The pack will allow students to complete their bio metric print/code to allow cashless payments and access to Scopay prior to starting. Tutors will collect these from students. Students who do not have forms returned would not be permitted to attend trips and enrichments, so it is vital to return as well as providing two emergency contacts.

The new term for Year 7 students starts on Wednesday 6th September from 8.40am – 3.15pm. Year 7 will be the only students attending that day. School buses will be running at the normal time for students who attend the village schools.

We look forward to meeting you on Wednesday 5th July.

Yours sincerely
S Westwood
Mrs S Westwood
Assistant Head (Personal Development & Safeguarding)