

# Thirsk Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr R. Chandler (B. Ed. Hons. NPQH)



5<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly I hope that you all had a good summer holiday and enjoyed being able to spend more time with your children. It was a pleasure to welcome your children back to school earlier this week. The first couple of days have been really successful and it has been a pleasure to see everyone returning.

The reason for this letter is to keep you up to date with some of the changes that are taking place this term. The most significant change is the introduction of McKie Mastery power teaching. The children have all got used to switching to their different power groups – in fact they have been excellent at this and are enjoying their learning. To accommodate this approach we have restructured our school day with a shorter lunch time and assemblies now taking place at the end of the school day. However with this approach punctuality is even more important than ever. Please ensure that your child is at school on time everyday. School starts at 8.50am and children are welcome on to the playground from 8.40am where members of staff will be on duty.

You may have already seen our new home school agreement. Please read through this and return this to school. One of the things that we will be stressing throughout this year is home/ school reading. As a school we ask that you hear your child read 5 times each week. The importance of regular reading is well known to have a significant impact of children's future success. We will be checking reading records daily to make sure that all our children are making good progress with their reading.

Can I also ask that children are not taken out of school for holidays. The Governing body agreed (a little over twelve months ago) that as a school we may issue fines where pupils have taken term time holidays. Holidays during the term time have a really negative effect on children's learning leaving gaps in knowledge that are not always easy to close.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this letter. We are really looking forward to an exciting year and seeing our fantastic school community thrive. If you do have any questions or queries please do come and speak with a member of staff. All of decisions are made with the best interest and future learning of the children first.

Yours sincerely

Mr R.Chandler  
Headteacher