

# Barnes Farm Junior School

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24<sup>th</sup> October 2013

Dear Parents,

Following a recent joint review, both schools are pleased to announce some enhancements to the arrangements for the beginning of the day. These improvements will take effect **after half term on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013**.

Our review of the joint beginnings of the day found the following issues:

- Teaching and learning is not beginning until up to 10 mins after the scheduled start
- All playgrounds become very congested just before 8:55am
- Traffic congestion builds up to a peak at 8:55am and causes tension with local residents
- At times, there is a mixture of responses from both schools when affected by poor weather
- Parents find it difficult if they have children at both schools

We are implementing the following arrangements across both schools to improve our effectiveness in these areas:

- ✓ **8:55am** remains the scheduled start of the day
- ✓ Between **8:45-8:55am** children will be able to be dropped off straight into class through outer doors
- ✓ Outer doors will be closed following the bell at 8:55am to allow the register to be taken.
- ✓ All children arriving late need to be checked-in through the main office
- ✓ Parents will still be able to deliver simple messages to the child's teacher via a teaching assistant at the outer doors

Both schools feel that this is a more relaxed and respectful beginning to the working day and will allow teaching and learning to begin promptly.

We still encourage all our parents to walk to school if possible, but this new arrangement allows for greater flexibility and hopefully, an easing of the peak traffic conditions experienced in the morning.

We look forward to implementing this enhancement after half term and to continue to work in partnership with our community to improve the Barnes Farm experience.

Regards,

Mr McTaggart and Mrs Mills

Headteachers of Barnes Farm Schools