

Heelands School Autumn 1 Newsletter 2020



Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to the new school year and a particularly warm welcome to the many new families who are joining us, we look forward to getting to know you and your children. We always send you a newsletter at the beginning of the half-term with dates of forthcoming events and activities going on in school. This time last year there were 12 events planned but this year, there is just one so far!

We have a theatre group visit booked and we are going ahead with that later in the term but they will be a different format to what we've had before. As we all watch to see how Covid19 develops and how life in school is affected, it may be that some of our annual events like the Christmas Nativity might take place but at the moment it is impossible to set out any definite plans. Parent consultations will go ahead but, again, the format will be different this year.

Morning routine

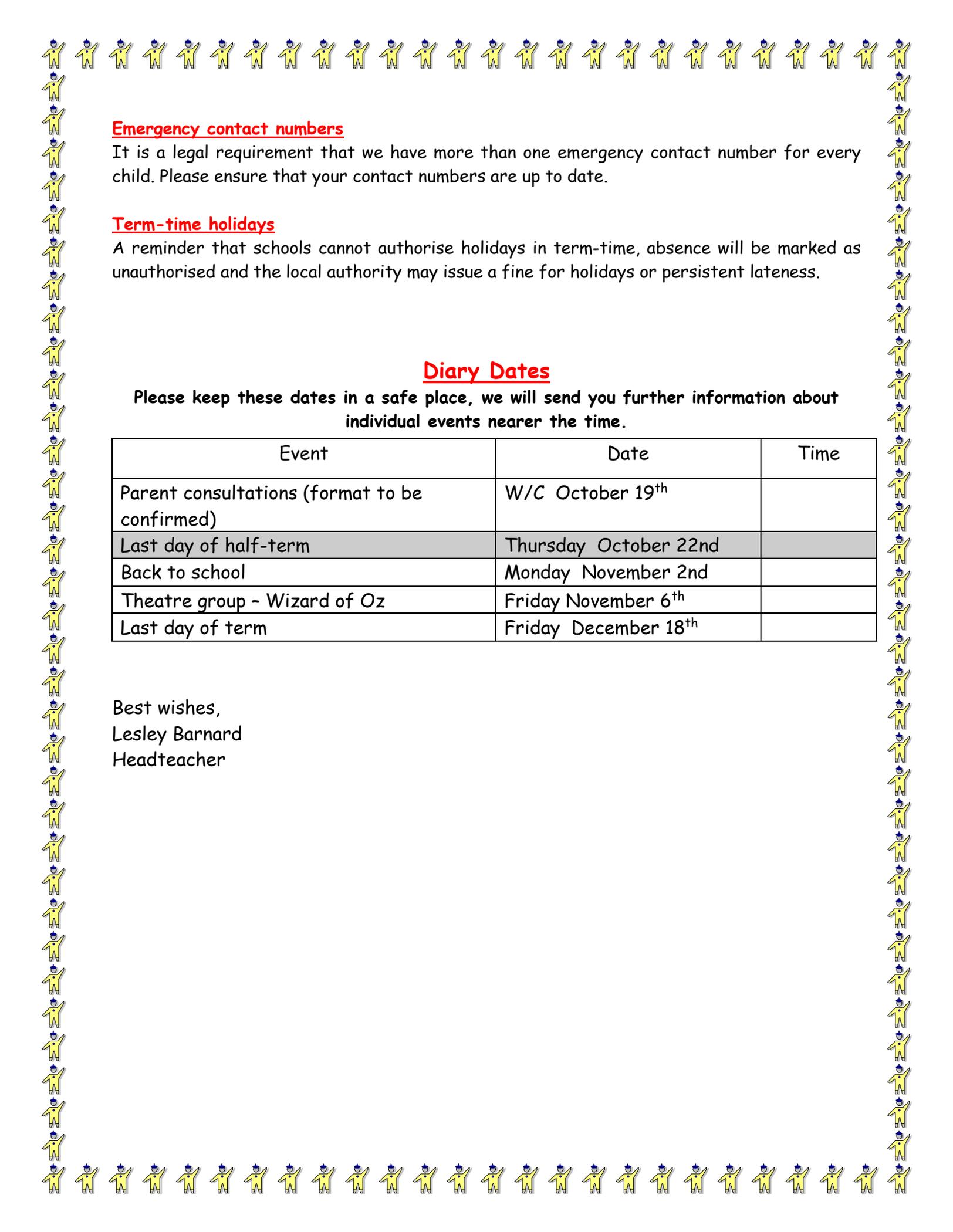
The new morning routine seems to be working well, thank you parents for being sensible with timing your arrival and then leaving the area quickly to avoid congestion. The gates now open at **8.45** and close at **8.55**. Teaching assistants are on the playground to take any messages and parents are always welcome to speak to teachers at the end of the day. Many thanks also for being so punctual, it really helps to get the day off to a smooth start.

End of the day routine

Several parents are struggling with different changes to the new pick-up times at BVS, where children are leaving at either 2.55 or 3.05. You would have to be a pretty good sprinter to make it across the bridge either way in that tight time-frame! I spoke to Ms Vincent and her advice is for parents to pick up younger children first and to not worry about being slightly late for a BVS pick up, they are very happy to hold on to children for you. We have tweaked the end of the day routine for Zebras and Giraffes and to avoid congestion on the redway, parents are welcome to come on to the playground when the gates open. From Monday September 21st we will open the gates at 2.55 so that parents who can arrive and pick up slightly earlier can do so.

Label your uniform!

We have already lost count of the number of jumpers, cardigans and fleeces without names - please, please make sure that your child's clothes are named. As usual we have a small mountain of clothes from last year in lost property - some brand new! - so please help us and yourselves by labelling your uniform.



Emergency contact numbers

It is a legal requirement that we have more than one emergency contact number for every child. Please ensure that your contact numbers are up to date.

Term-time holidays

A reminder that schools cannot authorise holidays in term-time, absence will be marked as unauthorised and the local authority may issue a fine for holidays or persistent lateness.

Diary Dates

Please keep these dates in a safe place, we will send you further information about individual events nearer the time.

Event	Date	Time
Parent consultations (format to be confirmed)	W/C October 19 th	
Last day of half-term	Thursday October 22 nd	
Back to school	Monday November 2 nd	
Theatre group - Wizard of Oz	Friday November 6 th	
Last day of term	Friday December 18 th	

Best wishes,
Lesley Barnard
Headteacher