



Straits Primary School  
Longfellow Road  
Lower Gornal  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY3 3EE

Email: [info@straits.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@straits.dudley.sch.uk)

[www.straitsprimaryschool.com](http://www.straitsprimaryschool.com)

Head Teacher: Mr P. Freear

Chair of Governors: Mr L. Bourne

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

A very warm welcome back to a new school year. We hope that you have all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break and that our children are returning to school feeling refreshed, excited and ready for another year of learning, experiences and making wonderful memories.

We would also like to extend a welcome to all of our new families who have joined our school community. We are delighted to have you with us and look forward to getting to know you and your children throughout the year. We hope you quickly feel part of our school family and that your journey with us is a happy and rewarding one.

### **Our School Environment**

Over the summer holidays, we have been busy making improvements to our school premises. We are particularly excited about our new hall ceiling, which has helped to refresh and improve this important shared space. We have also made improvements to our classrooms, including new furniture and new sinks, creating bright, practical and welcoming learning environments for our children.

### **Healthy Breaktime Snacks**

As part of our commitment to children's health and wellbeing, we would like to encourage families to provide healthy snacks for breaktime. This could be a piece of fruit or vegetable, a cereal bar, a yoghurt or crackers and cheese. The items we will be asking our children not to eat at breaktimes are crisps or chocolate bars; please do not send these into school as your child's breaktime snack. We appreciate your support in helping us to establish healthy habits that our children can carry with them as they grow.

### **Taking Pride in Ourselves and Our School**

We also want to encourage our children to take pride in themselves and in being part of our school community. One way we can demonstrate this pride is by wearing the correct school uniform, ensuring that children arrive each day looking smart, prepared and ready to learn. We ask parents and carers to support us by checking that children have the correct uniform and that it is clean, tidy and clearly named. Please remember that school uniform includes appropriate hairstyles (and please keep hairbands/hair accessories to a safe, suitable size), no jewellery other than studded earrings or a watch and no make-up or nail varnish.

This year, we are excited to introduce a theme for each school term, giving us opportunities to explore important values and ideas beyond the everyday curriculum.

We are beginning the school year with our theme: **"This Is Me" – Inclusivity.**

Throughout the term, we will celebrate what makes each of us unique while also recognising the similarities that bring us together. We want every child to feel valued, respected, listened to and included, understanding that everyone has a place within our school community. As part of this theme, we will be taking part in and recognising a number of important events and initiatives throughout the term, including Bright for Sight Day, Anti-Bullying Week, Children in Need, Black History Month, Show Racism the Red Card and World Mental Health Day.

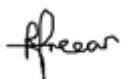
We will also be providing opportunities for our children to develop their understanding of respect, relationships and diversity. This will include banter workshops to help children understand the difference between friendly joking and comments that may hurt or offend others. For our older children, we will also be running racial diversity workshops, supporting them to have open, respectful and age-appropriate conversations about race, identity and equality.

We hope these experiences will help our children to develop empathy, confidence and respect for others, while giving them the language and understanding they need to navigate the diverse world around them.

Finally, we are busy preparing a range of exciting activities and events and will soon be issuing our autumn term calendar as well as our autumn term curriculum newsletters. We have an 'open door' policy at Straits and if you do need to speak to a member of staff about an issue, please make an appointment for the end of the school day so that we can allow dedicated time to discuss any concerns. Please also remember to check the parent hub app, the school website and follow our Facebook page – this will ensure that you are able to take an active role in school life and plan busy family lives.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead, filled with learning, opportunities and achievements. Thank you for your continued support, and once again, welcome back. We are excited to see what this new school year will bring!

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Freear'.

Mr. P. Freear  
Head Teacher