

Newsletter 12th September 2025

Welcome Back Berrywood

It has been an excellent start to the new school year. The vast majority of children have returned happily, safely and overwhelmingly focused on their learning. Our staff have hit the ground running with their commitment hard work and care for the children. Berrywood really is a very good school and we are so proud of children and community.

I would like to take this opportunity of formally welcoming our new Year R starters and their families, your journey has begun in earnest and we wish you well for the entirety of your time with us. Berrywood's success over many years has been built on the opportunities we provide for the children and the determination of staff to deliver the very best learning and education. Our resolve to continue in this vein is as strong as ever.

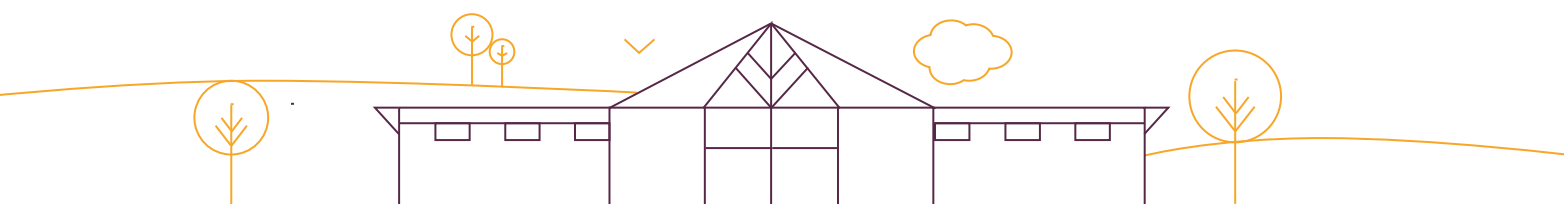
As parents, please know that there are two things you can definitely impact that have a huge bearing on your child's education. The first is making sure your child attends school on a really regular basis. This should be at least 90%, and data shows that where children have the highest attendance it correlates strongly with excellent achievement. The second is supporting your child with reading and especially in making sure reading is a daily feature of home life. Again, the research shows that where this does happen children achieve really well.

School Uniform - Thank You

The children have also returned to school looking very smart in their uniforms. Thank you for following our guidance so closely. If this is something you are struggling with for whatever reason, then please do speak to your child's class teacher or another member of staff as soon as possible. We will of course try and support but ultimately, we really do want the children wearing our uniform, being proud of their school and helping to create that strong and fair community that benefits everyone.

Autumn Term

The autumn term is as busy and packed full of events as ever. We are really looking forward to some fabulous experiences for the children. A number of which will involve you as parents too. Please keep an eye out for an **events newsletter** coming next week, where we aim to give you as many of these key dates as far in advance as possible. It really is going to be busy, busy, busy, so hold onto your hats and scarves and be ready to join in with the spirit of things!



Website & Policies

Please can we make a plea that more parents make use of the school website in the first instance when they are searching for information. The website contains all of our newsletters and a whole range of key information to help parents and families. Of course, if you can't find something and do need to speak to a member of staff or to send an email then that is fine... However, there is so much admin that goes with the school our size and our team are generally fairly flat out in the operation of the school. Your support and understanding with this would be greatly appreciated.

Very soon, the school website will have our latest updated version of *The Berrywood Way*. This is such a key document as it explains our values, our ethos, our curriculum and pretty much everything that we do and want to achieve for our children as a school. I really look forward to sharing the latest version with parents and families soon.

On a similar note, my secondment last year did mean that some areas of school life were perhaps put a little on hold. This will not be the case going forward and I am really keen to make sure all our policies and approaches in key areas e.g. uniform, behaviour, smart phones, clubs, performing arts etc. etc. are up to the minute and enable parents to get a really clear picture of our aspirations and expectations as a school.

Berries Vacancy

We currently have an advert out for an after-school Berries playworker. Very often this is exactly the type of opportunity that suits parents. If you are interested, please go to the Hantsweb site where the vacancy is posted. If the details still appeal, then fill out an application form and maybe you will soon be joining our friendly team!