

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have had a lovely summer. It has been wonderful to see pupils back in school this week looking so smart and ready to learn. We believe that a partnership between school and home is vital in providing pupils with the very best learning experiences so we're looking forward to working with you this year. Please always contact us if you have any queries or concerns – we are always happy to talk.

As you know, we're always busy at CMS! Here are some important pieces of information for the start of this academic year.

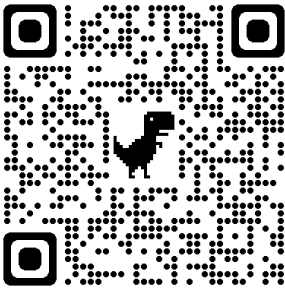
'CMS 101' Information Evening

We know that parents at CMS want to be involved and on-top-of their child's education and during these first few months, there is a lot to get to grips with. For that reason, we would like to invite you to a parent information evening which will be the 'beginner's guide' to our school – we call it 'CMS101'.

CMS 101 is on Monday 18th September at 6pm. This will give you information about all of the basics including Arbor, behaviour points, online curriculum platforms, how we assess, accessing reports and booking for parents' evenings.

At the beginning of this meeting, there will also be important information about the planned **residential**s for 2023-24. This meeting will be essential in making your decision about whether your child attends so, if you are interested in your child attending the residential, it is **important** that you attend at least the beginning of the 'CMS 101' evening.

Most importantly, the evening will be a chance to say hello, ask questions and put names to faces.



If you would like to attend, please visit <https://codsallms.schoolcloud.co.uk/> or use this QR code to take you to the school cloud booking system. You can sign in to this site by just filling in your details, making sure that you use the email address that you shared with school. If you need any help, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

New teachers

We are really pleased to welcome some new teachers to our school, although they will be familiar faces to the pupils as they visited us frequently last term. Miss Ferretti and Miss Saville join us as

Year 5 tutors, teaching across English and Maths. Miss Evans also joins our Maths team and is a Year 6 tutor. Mr Mistry will be teaching Computing and Science and will be a Year 7 form tutor and Mrs Revill will be teaching French.

Heads of Year

The role of Head of Year is intended to give parents a clear line of communication which, wherever possible, will remain the same throughout their time at CMS. Your child's Head of Year will be hoping to inspire them into going the extra mile, supporting them when needed, and will be communicating with you about the positives as well as dealing with concerns or behaviour issues.

The Heads of Year will all be familiar faces to the pupils:

Year 5 – Mrs Hilton (hhi@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk)

Year 6 – Miss Mayer (cm@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk)

Year 7 – Mrs Hydon (NHydon@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk)

Year 8 – Mrs Brookes (e.brookes@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk)

Updates to Arbor

We're really pleased that nearly all parents are now using Arbor to keep updated on their child's school life. Thank you very much for your patience as we have made the transition to Arbor – we know that there have been frustrations along the way for parents as well as our staff! We're doing everything for the first time in Arbor so please continue to bear with us if things aren't quite spot on.

The good news is that many parents are finding it much easier to update important information about their children by logging into Arbor. If you haven't done so, **please log in and check the accuracy of your child's information and consents** and update where needed. Soon we'll be introducing booking clubs, trips and making payments in Arbor, which will make it a real 'one-stop-shop' for parents. More information coming on that over the next half term.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. I wanted to inform you that we have not been affected by the decision to close some schools as no RAAC has been identified in our buildings and therefore we will continue to function as normal. I also would like to reassure you that we are approaching the situation with an abundance of caution, prioritising the safety of our pupils and staff, and will be making rigorous checks above and beyond government guidelines.

Communication

We always try to keep parents updated and we will always ensure that key information is communicated directly to you by text or email. We also have a Twitter account [@codsall_middle](https://twitter.com/codsall_middle) where we share photos and celebrate our wonderful pupils. If you would like to see your child in photos on Twitter, it is important that the photo permissions are completed appropriately on Arbor.

We **do not** have a Facebook page. Any pages that exist are not associated with our school so they are not the best place to get accurate information. I'd like to ask parents that if you have any queries or concerns, please contact us directly or check out our website. We are always happy to help and we can't always do that if we don't know.



School Uniform

Please name EVERYTHING for your children so that we can get lost property back to them. Our uniform policy is here - <https://www.codsallmiddleschool.com/uniform> . As we asked in July, please adhere to these guidelines, especially concerning avoiding tube skirts and trainers.

Parking

Thank you for your support in keeping our car park safe by not driving onto site. We ask all parents **not to drive onto the school premises** between the times of 8.15-8.40am and 3.00-3.25pm unless a prior arrangement is made.

Dates for your diary

As usual there is lots going on this term. Here are some of the things we have lined up already:

Thursday 14 th September	School Photographer
Monday 18 th September	CMS101 – parent information evening
Saturday 30 th September	School Open Morning with many pupils volunteering to represent their school
W/b 2 nd October – Monday to Thursday	Grandparents' Lunches
W/b 2 nd October	Readathon
W/b Monday 16 th October	Book Fair
Wednesday 18 th October	Parents invited into browse the book fair (3.30-4.30pm)
Thursday 19 th October	Year 5 Laches Wood Team Building Day
Friday 27 th October	School Closes at 3.15 for half term
Monday 6 th November	School closed to pupils – Staff training
Tuesday 7 th November	School reopens for Autumn Term 2

I have also attached our extra-curricular timetable for this half term for your reference. This may change as we get into the swing of the term. If it does, we'll let you know.

Thank you for your support. I look forward to seeing you in school soon.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Reade
Head of School





Thanks to the work of our Eco Club we have been awarded the Eco-Schools Green Flag with a Merit. This means we are one of only a handful of schools in the Wolverhampton area to have a green flag accreditation. Well done to all of the pupils and staff involved!

