



George Mitchell School

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8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term 2023

We enjoyed welcoming your children back yesterday. A warm welcome also to our new children and families joining us this term. I hope that you have all had a good summer break. We are very much looking forward to the term ahead.

Uniform

There was a change to our uniform policy in Sept 22 which was communicated to our official school shop. We requested clip-on and zip ties were no longer sold, as they often became faulty. However, it has come to our attention that Fashion Fair, an unofficial supplier, over the summer has sold zip and clip-on ties to families. I have spoken to the manager of Fashion Fair and they have agreed to exchange all zip and clip-on ties purchased at the store during the summer holidays, with a standard tie free of charge. If you have purchased a zip and clip-on tie over the summer holidays can I ask that at your earliest confidence that this is exchanged. Thank you.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

You will have heard in the media about disruption across many schools in the country fitted with concrete prone to collapse. George Mitchell is not one of the 104 schools affected by this.

Home learning

All children have been issued with a school planner. Class teachers will set homework once weekly and children are asked to record this homework into their school planners. More details regarding homework and the use of an online platform to share homework will be provided in the coming weeks. If you have any queries about homework please email your child's form tutor.

Attendance

Please be aware that holidays during term time will not be authorised and you may receive a fine of £60 per parent per child if you take your child out of school for an unauthorised absence.

Value of the Month

September's value of the month is Perseverance. We shall be exploring and considering the meaning of Perseverance over the coming weeks.

Performance data

YR11 GCSE attainment 2023

These results are pleasing and reflect the commitment and hard work of staff, pupils and parents/carers to ensure that children continue to have the best learning opportunities. Results show significant improvement at George Mitchell secondary. Results achieved are all above national 2019 (which is the measure available to schools) and our results were the 4th highest in the borough.

	GMS performance	GMS Performance	GMS Performance	National
	2019	2022	2023	2019
Basics (9-5 En & Ma)	36%	37%	47%	43%
English (Lang or Lit) 9-5	48.9%	41%	58.6%	53.4%
Maths 9-5	42.8%	50%	56.9%	40%

I am excited about the year ahead and watching our students progress as the year goes on.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Simmons
Head teacher

Autumn 1 - 2023 Diary Dates

14th September	Y11 Parents Evening 4pm – 7pm
29th September	Parent coffee morning 9am – 10am
4th October	Y10 Work Experience Information Session - Microsoft Teams 4.30 – 5.30
10th October	Open Evening 5pm – 8pm
23rd October – 31st October	Half Term
1st Nov – 7th Nov	Y11 Mocks
9th November	Y7 Settling-In Evening
22nd November	Y11 Careers Fair 5pm – 7pm
TBC	KS3 Parent Information Evening – Developing strong learning behaviours
TBC	KS4 Parent Information Evening – Supporting your child to succeed

Further details for specific events will follow separately.