



Brackenwood Junior School

Learning for Life



Headteacher: Miss R Fry

7th June 2024

Dear parents and carers,

We are writing to inform you of an important change to our school schedule that will take effect starting in September 2024. On Fridays, the school day will finish at 3.00pm instead of the current time of 3.30pm. From Monday to Thursday, the school will continue to operate until 3.30pm.

This adjustment has been carefully considered and is intended to provide significant benefits for both students and staff. We understand that changes to the school schedule can impact family routines, so we want to explain the rationale behind this decision and the positive outcomes we anticipate.

Benefits of early closure on Fridays:

1. Enhanced Teacher preparation and planning (PPA) time:

- The additional time on Friday afternoons will allow our teachers to engage in more thorough planning, preparation and assessment activities. This dedicated time ensures that lessons are well-prepared and tailored to meet the needs of all students.

2. Increased professional development opportunities (CPD):

- Teachers will use this time for professional development, enabling them to stay current with educational best practices and new teaching strategies. Ongoing professional growth for teachers directly translates to a richer and more effective learning experience for students.

3. Positive impact on student learning:

- When teachers are better prepared and continually develop their skills, the quality of instruction improves. Students benefit from more engaging, well-structured and effective lessons, which can enhance their learning outcomes and overall school experience.

Childcare support:

We understand that an earlier finish on Fridays may pose challenges for some families. We are pleased to inform you that Charley's Childcare will be available to accommodate Junior School children from 3.00pm on Fridays. If you need this service or have any concerns regarding the new schedule, please feel free to visit Miss Fry in the school office. She will be happy to assist you with any arrangements or answer any questions you may have.

We are confident that this change will have a positive impact on our school community, enhancing both the quality of education we provide and the well-being of our dedicated teaching staff. Thank you for your understanding and support as we implement this new schedule.

Yours sincerely

Miss R Fry
Headteacher

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