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Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you very much to everyone who contacted regarding the proposal to change the finish time of the school day from 3:15pm to 3:00pm.

Overwhelmingly, the response has been very positive and in favour of the change.

A few families did raise a couple of concerns regarding the changes. These were, in essence:

- **Not finishing work until 3:00pm, so not being able to get here on time:**

Our wrap around care will now start at 3:00pm. So, if you need this provision for your child, it can be booked via your MCAS app (MyChildatSchool). Please note that as always, senior staff will monitor the gates and school surroundings for an additional 15 minutes at the end of school time, which will now mean that staff will be present outside until 3.15pm anyway.

- **Wrap around care charges increasing:**

I can confirm that the After School Club will remain the same price as it is currently. As you are aware, we have just had a price increase, and this is not due to change in the near future.

- **Lunchtimes being shorter:**

In our experience, it is the unstructured times, like lunchtime, that children find the hardest. An hour of being unstructured is a long time for them to regulate their behaviour and entertain themselves. Due to this, we have been blowing the whistle 5 minutes earlier for this academic year, and it has had a positive impact on the children at lunch and during their afternoon learning.

Taking everything into account, from Monday 4th September, Upton Junior School will finish at 3:00pm. Therefore, the new timing of Upton's school day will be:

8:30am: Gates and classroom doors open. Registration commences.

8:45am: Gates close. Registration closes.

10:15 – 10:30am: Break time

12.15 – 1pm: Lunchtime

3pm: End of the school day

3pm – 4pm: Extra-curricular clubs

3pm – 6pm: After school club

Thank you for your support in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. I am very much looking forward to working in partnership with you across the new academic year.

Warmest wishes,



'One Childhood One Chance'

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