



BROMSGROVE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

LEAVERS' SERVICE AND PRIZEGIVING

PREP SCHOOL LEAVERS' SERVICE, PRIZEGIVING AND COMMEMORATION DAY

The final day of the School year marks the opportunity for the Prep School to celebrate our Year 8 pupils through the Leavers' Service and Prizegiving ceremonies. These events are a forerunner to the Commemoration Day that take place the following day, which is the Senior School's traditional end of year celebration. It is a very special day for the School and especially for our Upper Sixth Leavers. Commemoration Day is the most important day in our School year and all Senior School pupils are expected to attend. In 1693 Sir Thomas Cookes re-endowed the School and enjoined that once a year a sermon should be preached to the Scholars of the School in St John's Parish Church. It is this that the School commemorates as well as celebrating the end of the academic year with Prizegiving. Prep School pupils are not required to attend Commem (the common abbreviation for Commemoration Day).



WHO ATTENDS WHAT?

All Prep School pupils should attend School on the last day of term. Years 5 to 8 attend the Leavers' Service, which begins at 9:30am; parents of Year 8 children, as well as Governors, the President of the School and other guests will also be in attendance. Years 3 and 4 remain in the Prep School. All children and staff then attend Prizegiving, after which Years 3 to 7 are dismissed for the end of the year. Year 8 pupils and their parents then enjoy a light lunch with Prep School teachers, ahead of the Lowering of the Flag, which our Heads of School attend.

WHAT SHOULD WE WEAR?

The dress code for pupils is summer uniform (jumpers / cardigans are optional based on the weather); given the gravitas and importance of the day, pupils should be immaculately presented with uniform looking at its best.

The dress code for parents is formal day wear – hats are not a pre-requisite but many of our ladies do choose to wear one.

LEAVERS' SERVICE INFORMATION

Year 8 parents are welcome to attend the Leavers' Service and can sit in any of the designated rows marked in the Chapel, including the balcony. The Leavers' Service is recorded by our marketing department – we ask that no other photography or filming takes place inside the Chapel.

At the end of the Leavers' Service there is a Year 8 Leavers' photograph taken on the steps of the LRC. Parents are welcome to come and observe and there is an opportunity for parents to take their own photos after the official photos have been completed.



WHERE AND WHEN DOES PRIZEGIVING TAKE PLACE?

Prizegiving takes place in one of the large marquees on Gordon Green, parents of Year 8 pupils are welcome to attend along with the pupils and staff of the Prep School. Parents are asked to be seated no later than 10.50am - the Marquee begins to fill up from 10.40am.

During the Prizegiving Ceremony the School Executive, Chair of Governors and other Governor Representatives and the President of Bromsgrove School are in attendance to witness the awarding of the end of year prizes.

Prizegiving finishes at about 12.15pm, at which point Years 3 to 7 return to the Prep School and are dismissed.

A light buffet lunch is then held for Year 8 and their parents, teachers and Governors in one of the marquees on Gordon Green. Year 8 pupils are free to leave after lunch, though many families do congregate on the Prep School Concourse to observe the Lowering of the Flag ceremony.



WHAT ARE THE PARKING ARRANGEMENTS?

Year 8 parents staying for the entire day's events should park on Long Field (the main field adjacent to the driveway) at the Prep School site to reduce the amount of parking in the Prep School car park. Disabled parking for blue badge holders is available on request.

WHEN DOES THE DAY END?

The day ends for Years 3 – 7 following Prizegiving, with parents collecting children from the Prep School Concourse. For Year 8 the day officially ends after lunch, but many families do stay to observe the ceremonial lowering of the Flag.

The ceremonial end to the school year follows the Lowering of the Flag, which takes place at approximately 1.15pm. The Heads of School lower the flag and then hand it to the Headmaster, marking the end of the school year. This contrasts with the flag then being raised on the first day of the Michaelmas Term by the new Heads of School, marking the start of the new school year.



ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any specific questions about the day, please email Mrs Bowett: jbowett@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or Mrs Taylor: dtaylor@bromsgrove-school.co.uk or contact your child's Form Tutor / Class Teacher for more details.

Useful documents about end of term celebrations can be found in the Resources section of the website.