

Newsletter 1 September 2021

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families have had a decent summer and that you are well and looking forward to the start of the school year. We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on Thursday 2nd September.

Last term ended rather differently to what we had hoped with Covid hitting the school with unwanted and dramatic consequences. With the relaxation of measures and government expectation that schools will revert to normal routines from September I do, in truth, approach the new term with some degree of trepidation but with your support and sensible behaviour within and outside of school I hope that we will be able to avoid the worst disruptive effects of Covid from last year. Please therefore note the following:

- Our first Covid risk assessment of this school year has been published to the homepage of the school website. It will be reviewed and amended in light of any future developments. It is written according to new requirements which include the discontinuation of bubbles, social distancing, the wearing of masks or visors and a staggered start and finish to the school day. Despite the recommended removal of such measures we do however think it prudent to maintain some precautions and respectfully request that parents (unless advised as medically exempt) wear face masks on school premises. We realise that we cannot enforce this but ask for your cooperation as we want our school to be as safe as possible. Other mitigation measures are outlined in the risk assessment.
- From the first day of term children can arrive at school between 8.40am and 8.55am. Children will make their way directly to classrooms on arrival and parents are asked to depart as soon as the children have been dropped in the playground. Pick up times will revert to normal; 3.20pm for EYFS and KS1 / 3.25pm for KS2. Parents are asked to leave as quickly as possible once all children are collected.
- We recommend for your own safety, where possible you avoid using public transport to and from school and if you can, you encourage your children to walk, scoot or ride to school.
- Although schools no longer have any responsibility for test and trace we will keep you informed should there be a Covid outbreak within our school community.
- In the event of a Covid outbreak we do expect classes to remain open unless advised otherwise by Public Health England. Should a case or multiple cases of Covid occur in school we will expect you to carry out regular Lateral Flow Device tests with your children or PCR tests if advised. Children can continue to attend school once confirmation of a negative test result is provided.
- We ask that you do not enter school premises unless by arrangement. Please continue to contact the school by text, email or phone as we think it prudent to restrict the number of adults on school premises until further review. Myself and/or Ms. Dobie are usually present at the school gates should you need to speak with us.

Thank you so much for your continuing support and understanding. These measures are designed with the wellbeing of all in mind.

Kind regards

Graham Gunn

31.08.2021