



Wednesday 24th February 2021

Dear Parents,

Preparing for the full re-opening of school (8th March 2021)

I hope that you had a good half term week and that you managed to do some things that you enjoy and, for most, had a well deserved break from home schooling. 2021 has so far not been the year that we all hoped it would be so it is with much delight that we are able to welcome all children back on 8th March. I am also very aware that for some people there may be some concerns about the return to school so I wanted to write to you today so that you are all aware of the plans we are making to welcome all the children back.

Revised Risk Assessments

As has been the case over the past year, and will continue to be so, the health and safety of our community is paramount. We have begun to review our risk assessments, in line with government advice. Parents will be able to read updated documents on our website (Response to Covid page) next week. At this stage, the return to school will mirror our procedures for the Autumn term, i.e. staggered drop offs and collections, year group bubbles, etc.

Updated Parent Handbooks

I know from previous feedback from parents that our Parent Handbooks and Social Stories for children were useful documents so these are also being updated and will be sent to you early next week. Please take the time to read these through carefully as they will contain key information e.g. days to send your children in PE kits which may be different from last term. As stated above, we are looking at reverting back to similar arrangements to the Autumn Term so much of what is in the handbook will be unchanged. I will mark any changes in a different font colour for clarity.

New Timings for Reception

Reception children will have new timings for their school day as from Monday 8th March when they are all back. All Reception children should be dropped at school at 8.35am promptly and their school day will end at 3.05pm. These revised timings bring Reception children in line with the rest of the school, following a period of transition last term. Your updated Parent Handbook will contain all the details about where to drop off etc. but we ask that parents adhere to these timings, arriving not too early or late, to work in conjunction with our other year groups.



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The First Week Back

I hope that the children are as excited as we are about having everyone back at school soon! We are so proud of all the children; how hard they have worked, be this at home or in school. We know that life has been so different for them with so many usual activities suspended and far less time spent with family and friends. We recognise that after such a turbulent year the children need our continued support to transition back in to school and so we are working together to ensure that there is the appropriate balance of activities to support their mental health and wellbeing, but also to ensure that we are able to deliver our 'catch up curriculum'.

As per the ParentMail sent to you last half term, our INSET Day on 12th March will go ahead as planned.

Although scheduled nationally for 4th March, because it is usually such a highlight of the year, **we have decided to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 11th March.** We feel that this lends itself perfectly to the first week back in school – **all the children coming in to school dressed as a book character of their choice** and having a fun, yet purposeful day, will provide a real sense of togetherness. We know that lives are hectic for many so please don't worry too much about a really elaborate costume! We do ask that children do not come into school in football kits and that they don't bring extra 'props' with them. There is no need to send your child in with the book they are dressed as a character from, as we need to continue to limit the number of items brought into school for health and safety reasons.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We are keen for these to start up again and are aware that some of our Autumn Term sessions were postponed and we have not yet had the chance to make these up! Please bear with us while we organise our after school clubs – we will write to you as soon as we can with an update.

Parent Teacher Consultations

Due to the delay to the full re-opening of school, we have delayed our Parent Teacher Consultations to the end of this term. These meetings will be held via Teams and we will write to you in due course about scheduling these.

Last Day of Term

Just a reminder that we break up for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 31st March. School will finish at the following times for each year group:

Nursery: 11.45am as usual

Reception: 1.45pm

Year 1 and 2: 1.50pm

Year 3 and 4: 2.00pm

Year 5 and 6: 1.40pm

Finally, I would like to thank all parents for your ongoing support. I know just how challenging a time this is for families. As always, do reach out to us if you feel you need any further support. I look forward to seeing you all on 8th March.

Kind regards,



Mrs Louise Wood
Headteacher