



February 2022

Dear Parents,

I would like to start by thanking you all for your support over what has been another difficult term due to COVID-19. Like the majority of schools across the country, we have had a number of positive cases involving children and staff. However, I am pleased to say that, with the exception of 4 days for Nursery children, we have been able to ensure that all children receive the face-to-face teaching they deserve.

I would also like to thank our amazing staff team for being so resilient, flexible and eager to do whatever they can to ensure school life remains as normal as possible for all of our children. In recent weeks, we have seen a reduction in positive cases and the majority of children have returned to school.

We are awaiting further LA and Government guidance, however, I am hopeful that we can move away from our Outbreak Management Plan after half term and follow our usual precautions, in line with our COVID risk assessment.

Please find below some useful information, including some important changes to the start of the school day (Reception to Year 6).

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and relaxing half term break with your families. We look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Monday 28th February. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs R. Leonard
Head Teacher

Changes to the Start of the Day

As you will remember the timings of the day were changed when the children returned to school after lockdown 1 to enable staggered times. From Monday 28th February, we are making some changes to the start of the day. All doors on the main school yard will be opened at 8:50am by a member of staff. Children can come into school anytime between 8:50am and 9am and walk straight into school where their teacher will be waiting for them in the classroom. This will avoid both children and parents having to wait on the yard and therefore a smoother, calmer approach to the start of the day.

At the end of the day, we still require staggered finish times due to the number of children that leave through each door. Please take note of your child's finish time below and the door number.

Fireflies - Door 1 3pm

Dragonflies - Door 2 3pm

Class 1H - Door 3 3pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 1L - Door 3 3pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 2S - Door 4 3pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DOOR)

Class 3L - Door 4 3pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 3S - Door 5 3pm

Class 4L - Door 6 3pm

Class 5H - Door 6 3:10pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 5E - Door 5 3:10pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 6I - Door 4 3:10pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Class 6G - Door 4 3:10pm (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

These changes do not affect children in Butterflies and Bluebells.

Statutory Testing

As you are aware, children in Year 2 and Year 6 are currently preparing for the end of key stage tests that they will take in the Summer term. Thank you to all parents who attended the zoom information session. Booster sessions for both year groups will take place on a Tuesday until 4pm.

Dates for all statutory testing:

Year 6 SATs - week beginning 9th May

Year 2 SATs - Throughout the month of May

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check / Year 2 Resit - week beginning 6th June

Year 4 Multiplication Check - Week beginning 6th June

Please can we remind parents not to book holidays under any circumstances during these weeks.

Staffing and Governor Update

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Maguire is expecting her second child and Mrs Downing is expecting her first child in the Summer. Further information will be provided soon regarding cover for maternity leave. Miss Stalley also leaves us today to start her maternity leave. We wish her lots of luck at this special time.

Due to the resignation of Mr David Evans, our Chair of Governors, I would like to congratulate Mrs Jane Fox on her appointment as our new Chair of Governors.

On Monday 28th February we welcome Mrs A. Clark, our new admin assistant, to join our fantastic team. Mrs Clark will support Mrs Brown in the school office.

Interviews for our Deputy Head Teacher will take place week beginning 28th February.

Attendance

Please can I remind all parents of the importance of ensuring your child attends school every day unless they are unwell. Children have missed out on far too much education over the past 2 years; they cannot afford to lose any more time in their attempt to catch up.

If your child is too unwell to attend school and their attendance is below recommended levels, we will ask for medical proof to authorise the absence. Several unauthorised absences will lead to involvement with the Local Authority and possible court action. Please can we ask that you ring the school office on the first morning if your child is unable to attend.

World Book Day

We will celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. All children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. More information will be sent regarding activities for the day in a separate letter.

Easter Crafts

Although Easter may seem like a lifetime away, it will be here before we know it. We are hoping (with everything crossed) to be able to invite parents into school to take part in some craft activities with your children. These activities will take place week beginning 4th April. Please keep a look out for more information.

Teacher Training Day

Our final teacher training day for the year will be on Friday 18th March. The school will be closed to all pupils on this day.