

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

I hope you have had a good summer break, whether you have ventured abroad, staycationed, or stayed in the local area.

Miss Malkin certainly had a good summer as she got married, and returns to school as Mrs Tanner. I am sure you all will join us in congratulating her on this happy news and wish her and her husband best wishes for their future.

All the staff have been in school for the past 2 day, and have been busy getting ready to welcome you back to something close to pre COVID normality. We are very excited to see you again and finding out what the children have been doing over the summer break. We are also looking forward to having assemblies and allowing the children to mix with others in their key stage at playtimes and lunch times.

Below, you will find a reminder of the arrangements for the start and end of the school day, as well as some other useful information.

#### Start and finish times

School starts at 8:50am and finishes at 3:15pm for all children in Year 1 to Year 6.

**Reception children** will attend **8.50am to <u>1pm</u> on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**, then from Monday 6th September, they will attend 8.50am to 3.15pm

# **Accessing School**

Parents and children will be able to enter and exit via the KS2 gate or the field gate, whichever is most convenient. Reception and Year 1 children will enter school through the white door to their cloakroom. Year 2 children will continue using the door directly into their classroom. Year 3&4 will use the cloakroom door that they have been using, and Year 5&6 will continue using the door directly into their classrooms. Reception and Year 1&2 teachers will continue to come out on the playground, and welcome their children into school. Teachers in Year 3&4 and Year 5&6 will continue to stand by the doors and welcome children in from there.

Over the last few months, we have been really pleased with the way children have come into school after saying good bye to their parents and carers on the field or playground. We would like to continue this for all classes next year. To support your child's independence, and to make morning drop offs quick and tear free, we would like parents and carers to say goodbye in the playgrounds,

and not to come into school with them. Teachers will be around if you need a quick word, once your child has gone into school, or alternatively it would be good if you could send a quick Dojo or Tapestry message instead.

#### **COVID Control Measures**

Some COVID control measures will remain in place and be regular practice including: ensuring good hygiene with handwashing; keeping occupied spaces well ventilated and continuing to follow public health on testing and managing confirmed cases.

#### **Contact Tracing and Isolation**

Schools will no longer be responsible for contact tracing as close contacts will be contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace. Children under 18 will no longer be required to self isolate as a close contact of a positive case of COVID 19. Instead, they will be advised to take a PCR test to allow them to attend school. Children with identified symptoms of COVID should continue to not attend school and get a negative COVID test before returning. If the test comes back positive they will need to isolate ate home for 10 full days. The Chart below shows who has to isolate.

# Have you had a POSITIVE covid test result? YES Are you 18 or over? YES NO Have NHS Test & Trace notified you about being a close contact of a confirmed Covid case? Have you had BOTH doses of the vaccine? NO Did you have your 2nd dose MORE than 2 weeks ago? YES. You do not need to self isolate You must self isolate

# Do I need to self-isolate?

A DfE guide for parents is available by clicking here

**Contact details** – Please make sure you keep your contact details up to date, these include mobile phone numbers and email address. We have had some parents missing important information because we did not have their correct details. If any contact information has changed please let the office know as soon as possible.

**Breakfast and After School Clubs** – To enable our successful clubs to continue to run smoothly, please could all parents and carers make sure they give 24 hours' notice to cancel a pre booked place, to avoid being charged. Can you also make sure places are paid for in advance.

**Children having packed lunches** – Please can you ensure that your child does not bring nuts, or food containing nuts into school, as we have several children with severe allergies to them. Could you also make sure your child has a drink and any cutlery they need to eat their packed lunch and we will be asking the children to take the rubbish hoe from their lunches so parents can see what they have eaten.

### **Looking Forward**

The following things are happening this term:

- We will continue to invite parents to the last Friday assembly of each month to see children receiving special mentions and awards the first one will be Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am in the hall.
- School starts Thursday 2nd September 8.50am
- Parents' welcome morning Wednesday 8th September 9.00 10.00am Please see below.
- Half term school finishes Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October
- School reopens on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November
- Autumn term finishes on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

There will be 3 further INSET days on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July. Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July will be taken in lieu of the extra bank holiday for the Queen's Jubilee. I will publish a list of events for the year ahead in early September.

## Parents' welcome morning

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September we are having our parents welcome morning from 9am to 10am where all parents are welcome. Please drop your children off as normal, then make your way to the hall, where tea and coffee will be available from the kitchen. At around 9 am parents will be able to join their children in their classrooms (the teachers need a few minutes to take the registers and settle the children down).

The teachers will be putting out activities that you can do with your children if you would like, but there is also an opportunity for you to speak informally with your child's teacher and have a look in other classrooms around the school. Tea and coffee will continue to be served in the hall where there will be some tables and chairs so parents can sit and chat. Please feel free to write comments in the comments book which will be available in the hall.

Looking forward to seeing you soon

John Birch