



Parent Newsletter

Monday 14th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We made it through the first week and I am so incredibly proud of the school community for working together to settle the children back into school life. Your children have shown such resilience, returning to the classroom and their learning and settling back so quickly. Despite many of the children not being in formal education for many months they have all grown and matured, showing they are ready for the next stage in their education.

With school running so differently in the summer months, we had some time to reflect on the curriculum we provide for your children and make changes. We have chosen to move from a topic-based curriculum using the Cornerstones resources to a discrete subject curriculum where each subject has its own topic/unit of work. We will continue to make links across subjects when this is supporting children's learning and understanding. We have always taught many of our subjects discretely such as computing, music, PE and RE so this is not completely new for our children. Our intent is that:

'Every child should have the opportunity to learn long term knowledge and skills which challenge them to find their place in the world'

HOW?

Through clearly sequenced content knowledge that is evidenced:

-within lessons

-between lessons

-between year groups

-between key stages

We believe our new approach to implementing our curriculum will offer your child knowledge rich education that will prepare them well for their next stage of schooling. At the end of the week, you will receive a year group newsletter that will outline this half terms curriculum.

Now for a few notices and reminders:

1. From today, we require all parents to wear facemasks when on our school playground. I am sure you understand that this measure is to keep our school community as safe as possible.
2. Can I remind parent to leave the site promptly at the end of the day.

3. **From next week (Monday 21st September) all the gates in the morning will close at 8:50am.**

My reasons for this are

- a. There is no congestion or queueing at the start of the day
- b. After 8:50am we have very few children entering the site
- c. School staff can start lessons promptly at 9am
- d. Staff on the gate can begin working with your children earlier

We will of course monitor the impact of this.

4. Can I remind you that we are a nut free school (please find attached our policy) we have several children with severe nut allergies.
5. Homework – currently we are not setting formal homework. Our plan is to use the new platform Seesaw to complete homework digitally. This will avoid any need to bring additional books to and from school, prepare pupils in case they need to isolate and complete home learning, as well as being better for our environment.

Understanding challenges pupils face whilst learning from home. Action required.

I wanted to reach out to you today to ask for your participation in a brief survey to help us understand more about how your child is adapting before we begin to use digital learning both within the classroom and from home.

Understandably, the recent months have seen our schools adapt, change and develop their teaching by embracing online teaching, digital classes and remote learning. Having spoken to parents and pupils recently, I have heard feedback on the different ways families are engaging and we are constantly looking for ways to support you more.

The survey is very brief and takes less than 10minutes to complete and is designed to gather information on how pupils are accessing and engaging with learning and will therefore not be used to judge or grade your child. Your feedback will allow us evaluate the effectiveness of home learning and to develop our offering or give support and additional help where possible.

Please follow this link to complete the survey before Monday 21st September:

[Click here to complete the survey](#)

We are continually refining our digital strategy, which we believe will help pupils stay safe online, gain valuable life skills and give them the experience needed to continue developing as learners. The information you provide today will go towards us developing this strategy and feedback on the areas you think are important.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Warm Regards



Mrs Sara Paine