



# Newsletter

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AUTUMN TERM !!!  
10/9/21



## **Welcome back - Academic Year 2020/21**

Oh my goodness!! The children are looking so smart in their new uniforms and they are all so proud. We mention how smart they are and their little face just light up! They are delighted! Parents / carers - you are doing a grand job we have to say!!

We have a very different start to the new year from last year! A little more normal but not normal and I am sure you will know what we mean. It is still strange and sometimes difficult to understand for us all. There is still a great deal of uncertainty so we will try our best to keep you updated as best we can under the circumstances.

We adjusted the end of day pick up arrangements to help parents. Thank you for making us aware that you were feeling unsafe with the overcrowding on pavement areas. The adjustments have made a difference and we will continue to monitor this. Please feel free to make suggestions to help us resolve all matters of concern.

Our communication systems throughout the pandemic have proved to be invaluable for parents. It has been a positive and real asset for the school and we have received a huge amount of thanks and recognition for this. As a staff we too have recognised the benefits it has brought for your children and this was discussed during our INSET days. We have made a decision that all these methods of communication will remain. Class teachers / teaching assistants will continue to make regular contact with families so please do not be concerned if you receive these calls. If you do not wish to receive any 'check in' calls please let us know.

## **New Covid rules - Please keep the virus out of our school**

As we know, the rules have changed so many times. Sometimes we understand them and sometimes we don't, but they are still rules for us to follow. We do have our own opinions but we still have to follow the rules. As you know from the community, schools are now facing different circumstances. The authority have asked schools to pass this information on to parents. [Click here for the letter](#)

We understand that these new arrangements may cause you concern. Social media and press are already stating strong views. As a school, we have to follow legal instruction. As a school, we continue to ask that you consider and respect the safety of all pupils and staff. We have a duty of care to all pupils, but we will need to pay particular attention to those who are vulnerable and have been shielded due to medical conditions. We have pupils with serious medical conditions and I know that you would want to help us protect them. We are happy to discuss each case individually so both your family, and all our families feel safe. Many thanks for your support.

### **PE kits**

We are now able to remove the teaching areas from the hall. This means that the gymnastics sessions can return and all areas of physical education can return. Each class will have separate sessions for PE and we create a timetable for classes to use the hall. Teachers will let you know what day your child needs to bring their kit into school and if they need trainers or jogging bottoms. PE kits are plain white t-shirt (no logos), plain black shorts or jogging bottoms depending on lesson type. It is important that we ensure the children have plain garments without logos. I am sure you will understand the reasons why and they can be purchased relatively cheap from many stores these days! Thank you in anticipation for your support.

### **Handover at the end of day**

We collect information on who is picking your child up from school. Your child will not be handed to anyone else unless we are told by you. If there is a change of person for whatever reason, you must let us know. These rules are in place to make sure we know your child is safe. Parents of year 5 & 6 pupils are offered the chance for their children to walk home alone. Parents make that decision for their own child knowing that they have put safety measures in place.

### **STAFF NEWS**

You may have seen a lot of strange faces around school this week. We have a number of staff off at the moment for all different reasons. Their posts have been covered by agency staffing so we could start the new term. We are planning for a full team of staff again next week so that we can get back to routine properly again.

It was lovely to see Mrs Thomas and Mrs Reynolds in school on Friday. They are still on maternity leave but working a 'Keeping In Touch Time' day. They plan to do more days so you may see them around. Their return to school dates are a few weeks away. Both babies are thriving and all is well.

Mrs Davies is back with us full time again. We have missed her cheeky laugh so much!

A big welcome to Mrs Emily Doyle and Mrs Jo Griffiths who joined our team as permanent members of staff. Both teaching assistants will be working in the year 1/2 class with Mrs Jones this year. Well done both on your successful interviews.

### **Questions on Facebook**

Two questions were asked that are important for everyone to know.

Are we arranging for school photographs this year? Yes. We have booked the date for October 4th.

Do all classes put photographs onto Facebook? Not necessarily. The photos are posted for particular reasons. You will see lots of nursery and reception because they have only just started school or are now in school all day. We know parents worry about the children settling so this is our way of showing what they are doing. Also, some of these children are the first child for parents, so parents are unaware of how schools are organised so this is a way of showing how they learn. If a class has a special event that we know parents would like to see we post these. At the moment teachers are up to their eyes planning for the year, analysing assessments so sometimes you do not see photos because they literally have no time spare to do it! sorry if this is the answer you wanted.

### **School Term Dates**

Here is the link

<https://www.npt.gov.uk/18512>

### **Diary Dates**

4/10/21	School photographs
25/10/21	Half term break
9/12/21	Flu Nasal Spray reception to yr 6 (parental consent only)
17/12/21	Last day of term.

