

Dear all

Welcome back! We are all very excited to welcome children back to school from Thursday next week (3rd September). We haven't seen them all for so long, even though some things will undoubtedly look and feel differently, we can't wait to get back into a routine. As the summer break comes to an end, we wanted to share some new information and a few reminders.

Staffing

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Natalie Hobden to the team as a Teaching Assistant working with Reception this term. We know that both Mrs Hewitt and Miss Hobden are keen to meet our new families over the coming days and working together to give our youngest children the best possible start to school life.

Teaching Arrangements

Year	Maths	English	Afternoons
Reception	Mrs Hewitt Miss Hobden	Mrs Hewitt Miss Hobden	Mrs Hewitt Miss Hobden
Year 1	Mrs Hunt Mrs Dyde (Thur/Fri)	Mrs Hunt Mrs Dyde (Thur/Fri)	Mrs Bushell Mrs Hunt (Thur/Fri) Mrs Radbourne
Year 2	Mrs Bushell Mrs Radbourne (Thurs/Fri)	Mrs Bushell Mrs Radbourne (Thurs/Fri)	Mrs Bushell Mrs Hunt (Thur/Fri) Mrs Radbourne
Year 3	Mrs Kelsey Mrs Bond	Mrs Grant Mrs Bond	Mrs Grant Mr Rickaby (Fri) Mrs Bond Mrs Jukes
Year 4	Mr Gibson Mrs Viall	Mrs Kelsey Mrs Viall	Mrs Grant Mr Rickaby (Fri) Mrs Bond Mrs Jukes
Year 5	Mrs Grant Mrs Willis (Mon/Fri) Mrs Jukes	Mr Gibson Mrs Willis (Mon/Fri) Mrs Jukes	Mrs Kelsey Mrs Willis (Mon/Fri) Mrs Wiseman Mrs Viall
Year 6	Mr Rickaby Mrs Wiseman	Mr Rickaby Mrs Wiseman	Mrs Kelsey Mrs Willis (Mon/Fri) Mrs Wiseman Mrs Viall

Buildings & Access

It has been a very long time coming but you will by now have seen that the building work has finally started! The project to provide three replacement classrooms is due to be completed in May 2021.

The main part of the playground is now a building site. This means that **there is no access at all to the school via the blue gates near the kitchen or the office.**

Morning drop off is flexible between 8.40 and 9am to avoid everyone arriving at the same time.

Those walking or cycling should use the gate usually used for playgroup, accessed via Fitzhammon Park. Bikes can be locked in the shelter near the gate.

Those coming to school by car should arrive at the gate at the bottom of the Village Hall car park, usually used to access the field.

Parents are not able to come onto the school site in the mornings. Children will be met by a member of staff at each gate and will go straight to their classrooms. Any messages that need to be passed on need to be done via telephone or email to the office.

At the end of the day, we will operate a staggered collection time. Families with more than one child in school collect their children at 3pm. Those with only one child in KS1 collect at 3.10 and KS2 at 3.20.

In the afternoons, parents can come onto the school site (the newly tarmacked area where the A-Zone used to be), again accessing via the playgroup gate or field gate. Children will be released once we see a parent on the playground. A path has been created from the field gate to the playground so that nobody has to walk across wet grass! **We would ask that only one parent comes onto the playground to collect children and that you leave promptly when you have your child** so that the playground is clear for the next group of parents.

There must be no gathering of parents at all at the start or end of the day.

Car Sharing

Whilst we have little control over arrangements before and after the school day, we would ask everyone to note the following:

Current government guidance on car sharing says that *'you should try not to share a vehicle with those outside your household or support bubble.'*

Further advice from the Local Authority is that:

- Car sharing between parents should only be undertaken only where it is necessary (to get a pupil to school). For example, where a parent has no transport themselves and lives outside of walking distance from the school and relies upon another parent, or where a parent is recovering from an operation and another parent has arranged to take their children to and from school.
- Sharing transport for personal or economic convenience should be strongly discouraged.

- Sharing transport should wherever practicable be within the same school bubble (key stage).
- Where car sharing across school bubbles (key stages) is considered, parents should have at least considered whether there are alternative arrangements e.g. a different parent that can support the car share instead.
- Where car sharing does occur parents should follow the government's guidelines
 - share the transport with the same people each time
 - keep to small groups of people at any one time
 - open windows for ventilation
 - consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle
 - clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products - make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch
 - ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering.

Meals

It is our intention for the kitchen to reopen and for hot meals to be provided as normal with some adjustments to how the dining room operates. The menu is available on the school website and children who wish to order a hot meal do so at registration. Children going into Y3 are no longer eligible for Infant Free School Meals and parents will be sent a ParentPay activation letter. For those children not having a hot school dinner, packed lunches can be brought in as normal in a lunchbox.

Events

Following current government guidance regarding large gatherings, there will be no whole-school events such as harvest festival or Christmas production this term. Guidance changes often and we will continue to adapt what we can offer as and when we are told more. We would ordinarily hold a parents evening in November. We are considering options for how this can work safely and will update you when we are able. There will be no after school clubs this term to minimise the mixing of children and staff.

PE

PE will take place this term. Kits must be left in school until half term to minimise the regular transfer of items between home and school. Unless there is severe weather, lessons will take place outside wherever possible so please make sure children have a jumper/hoodie and jogging bottoms so that they keep warm as we head into winter. Coats will also be needed as the weather continues to turn.

Stationary

Children do not need to bring any stationary with them from home. The transfer of items between home and school must be kept to an absolute minimum. We will provide all of the stationary the children need within school. We are asking that children do not bring in bags or rucksacks, as there is no need for them and we have nowhere to store them. Books bags are OK if you have them.

Communication with staff

Staff will not be available before school as they will need to be in their classrooms from 8.40am to receive the children as they arrive and come straight in. As during lockdown, please continue to email any questions or queries or telephone the school office to arrange an appointment. Any messages regarding changes to adults picking up and dropping off need to go via the office by phone or email.

Illness & Isolation

Opening the school more widely in as safe a way as possible relies on everyone working together and following the measures put in place. We would remind everyone that if any child displays any of the symptoms of Covid19 (a high temperature, a new/continuous cough, change in sense of taste/smell), they must stay at home and get a test. The result of the test needs to be shared with the school. If any families have travelled abroad in the later part of the holidays, please check the latest guidance for the country involved and isolate as required.

We hope that you enjoy the bank holiday weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone again next week.

Mr Gibson & Staff.