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July 15<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Plans for September**

The first day back for children will be Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020. Please see guidelines for September with details about drop off and pick up times. Children will be expected to wear uniform but we understand that not all uniform items have been available to order so there will be some flexibility in the first few days back.

### **Transition**

Children have already met their new class teacher and the older children will go straight to their new classroom in September. Wrens, Jays and Owls will go to their current classroom in the morning and move to their new classroom in the afternoon until we feel they are ready to start in their new classroom for a full day. On the first day back (September 2<sup>nd</sup>) Owls (new Y3) should come to the Wrens door for drop off at 9:00 am but be picked up at the main gate at 3:15 pm. There are transition booklets on the class pages for every class for those pupils who have been unable to attend this term. Teachers will not be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' session this year but will send a welcome letter by email instead. We are planning to organise parents' evenings towards the end of the term as usual.

### **Curriculum**

We all believe it is important for the children to continue with a broad and balanced curriculum next year. Children with gaps will have specific short interventions that will not interfere with lessons in other subjects. We will not be able to have class trips using coaches in the first term but we will go on local visits within walking distance.

### **Equipment and Resources**

All children will have their own pack of stationery equipment in a named plastic wallet. Children will be recording in books but teachers will not take them in for marking. Instead they will give verbal feedback. We already do this as it is more effective than comments in books. We have new visualisers to help with giving feedback to children and for modelling good work. We also use whole class feedback sheets that some of you may be familiar with from last year's parents evening.

### **School Lunches**

In the first term, children will either need to bring a packed lunch or order one from the kitchen. For the first three days all children will need to bring a packed lunch from home. From September 7<sup>th</sup>, Principals will be able to supply a packed lunch for those children on free school meals or for any parent who wishes to order one. The catering company is changing to a new cashless payment



system and I will give further details about costs and how to order as soon as we are back in school in September.

### **Staggered Lunches and Playtimes**

Children will eat their lunches in the classroom and have staggered playtimes as they do already. The outdoor areas (field and playground) have been named after countries (see guidelines) so each class has a zone which has been marked out by cones. The children are already familiar with this system.

### **Communal Areas in School**

Classes will be timetabled for use of the hall, library, studio and swimming pool (we are hoping to be able to use the pool next term) and for equipment such as laptops and iPads. PE equipment and electronic equipment will be cleaned between groups.

### **Collective Worship & Assemblies**

Collective worship is still an important part of school life and will take place every day. This will take place in class or in the joint year group bubbles.

### **Music and Extra-Curricular Clubs**

Individual music lessons will take place as before. The rooms will be well ventilated or outside if possible. In the first term, we will not have extra-curricular clubs at lunch times or after school but we will review this at the end of the term.

### **Barham Bubbles**

The children are organised in 'bubbles' as follows: Year 5 & 6, Year 3 & 4, Year 1 & 2 and reception. The rationale behind having the two classes in a bubble is because the children have to share the same toilets. It will mean that if a child in one of the bubbles tests positive for coronavirus, both year groups in the bubble will have to go home to self-isolate.

### **Hygiene Measures**

We have installed hand sanitiser dispensers around the school, as well as additional paper towel dispensers in all the toilets. The cleaners have extended their hours and will be in school from late morning to ensure all the toilets, contact points and communal areas are cleaned thoroughly at lunchtimes.

### **Scooters & Bikes**

KS2 children can now bring their scooter/bike to school but will be supervised putting it away. Unfortunately, we have nowhere to store scooters or bikes by the Wrens classroom door so if your child in Jays or Owls brings one to school, you will need to take it back with you.

Thank you for your ongoing support with the staggered starts and finishes. The children that have returned to school this term will not notice any great differences in the routine.

If there is anything that is not clear or you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely



Alison Higgins