

Thursday 17th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for working with us over the last few weeks to ensure all our children can arrive and exit the school building safely each day. You will see our new blue arrows which should make exit routes clearer.

You may be aware that new restrictions come into force in the North East tonight, following a rise in coronavirus cases. I want to reassure you that school will continue to be open to all pupils at this time and we actively encourage you to send your child into school. Our children are loving being back with their friends and experiencing some kind of normality.

Can I please remind you that from midnight tonight, it will be illegal for separate households to mix, so you must remain socially distanced from other families on school grounds and children from separate year groups (bubbles) must not play together.

National School Breakfast Programme Covid-19 response



In partnership with Magic Breakfast and funded by the Department for Education, the National School Breakfast Programme offers support to schools across England to improve access to healthy breakfasts during the pandemic. From Monday, each morning, your child will be offered a healthy bagel, free of charge. If your child has an allergy, we can provide fruit or cereal on request. Alternatively, parents/ carers may send in a similar food snack.

Attendance

Last night it was reported on the BBC News that national school attendance is 88%. I am very proud to announce that our current attendance for this term is **95.6%**. Let's keep up the good work!

If anyone has a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must remain at home and follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.

This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

If anyone in your household starts to show symptoms, your full household must self-isolate for 14 days or until a negative result is given. If someone tests positive, then the household must self-isolate for the full 14 days.

If your child does not display Covid symptoms and has not had direct contact with someone, who has tested positive, then they are safe to return to school.

Homework

Can I just remind parents and carers that all homework is now set on your ClassDojo page. This is to limit the potential of virus transmission between home and school.

Each week the following homework will be set:

- Spellings matched to the spelling pattern/rule being taught that week. Tests will occur every three weeks, however children will receive a new learning strategy every week to learn their set spellings.
- Reception and KS1 children will be set an online activity matched to the sounds learned that week
- My Maths activity matched to personal targets
- Timetables Rockstars activity matched to personal targets
- A reading book will also come home each Monday. They must be returned to school on Thursday as we must quarantine them for 72 hours and sanitise the book cover before sending back out.

Phonics games, My Maths and Timetable Rockstars are all online activities. We are encouraging the children to practise their spellings using the strategies taught in school. They can write these out on paper and post a photograph and put it in their homework Dojo portfolio. Similarly, with other activities posted, children can complete on paper, take a photo and post in the homework Dojo portfolio. This method was effectively used during lockdown, so we would like to continue to post homework in this way.

If you have any difficulty logging on to your child's homework, please contact the class teacher for support.

Remote Learning



While it is our intention to remain open for all year groups, we know that there may be circumstances when we need to close all or part of the school. We are making plans to ensure we can provide the very best remote learning. We have chosen the platform Microsoft Teams, which will enable our teachers to teach live lessons, in the event that children must remain at home.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have completed our technology survey as it is really important for us to know what access pupils have tablets, Smart phones and laptops. For pupils who do not have access to online learning, we will continue to provide a paper-based alternative.

Look out for our parent guide to using Microsoft Teams over the coming weeks. Our children will also be taught how to access this resource in school.

PE Arrangements

From Monday 21st September, we have updated our PE policy, in response to the pandemic. Please can we ask you to send your child into school dressed in their outdoor PE kit on their PE day. They will be allowed to wear their kit all day to avoid changing.

Class PE days

Class	PE Day
1LD	Monday
1LT	Monday
1SL	Tuesday
2CS	Wednesday
2EM	Tuesday
2GC	Wednesday
3RL	Tuesday
3NW	Tuesday
3SR	Tuesday
4WC	Wednesday
4EC	Wednesday
4CT	Thursday
5PT	Monday
5EK	Monday
5EW	Monday
6JS	Thursday
6SB	Thursday
6DC	Friday

Reception classes have not formally started PE sessions, the teacher will contact you with their allocated day once set.

Outdoor PE Uniform

- Plain navy blue, black or grey sweatshirt/hooded top/tracksuit
- Matching navy blue, black or grey jogging bottoms/tracksuit
- Trainers

(Indoor shorts and t-shirt can be worn underneath if it's cold)

For pupil health and safety, earrings must be removed for PE sessions.

As always, please look after one another and we will get through this!

Yours sincerely



Mr J A Jones

HEADTEACHER