

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Start of the Year Newsletter and Return to School next week**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 2nd September for the new school term and we hope that you have had a great summer.

Over the summer holidays, we have been busy in school with lots of improvement works. You will notice that the office areas have been reconfigured and improved over the summer break with some extensive building work taking place. We have also had building work done in the year 1 classrooms to improve disabled access and Mr Ware has worked really hard throughout the period of closure and the summer holidays to redecorate many of the classrooms and shared areas. We have also had more efficient LED lighting installed in the upper school as the start of a whole school improvement scheme. It's been a busy time, improving the school ready for the children to return and do their very best.

Teachers have also been busy, planning work to quickly catch the children up and move them on in their learning and this work will start from day one, which is why it's so vitally important that we have all children back in school, on time, ready to learn.

Just a few reminders that we thought may be useful as we start the new school year, as things will look a little different as children return to school and we know that there is a lot to take in.

**All children** are expected back in school now - we ran the school safely and successfully with a great number of children who returned in Term 6, so we are fully confident that this will continue in Term 1 when all children return. If you do have any individual worries or concerns, do contact us via the office e mail account and we will do our best to support you. Our school risk assessment will be posted on our website at the start of term on the policies page.

Entrances are now staggered around the school for children arriving at/departing school: as this information is new and different for everyone, we have put it below for you as a reminder.

**Start and Finish times**

Years 1-6 return to school on **Wednesday 2nd September**.

Early Years will start on **Monday 7th September**.

School will now begin slightly earlier in the day with registration at **8.40am**

<p><b><u>Year 5 and Year 6 Bubbles-</u></b></p> <p>Year 5 and 6 will enter via the Upper School door, next to the nursery gate. Doors open at 8.30am and close at 8.40 am.</p> <p>School ends for Year 5 at 3.20pm and they will be dismissed from the playground. Parents are asked to follow the one way system on site and exit via the nursery gate.</p> <p>The Year 6 day will end at 3:20pm and will exit via the Upper School door, next to the nursery gate.</p> <p>We would appreciate parents only accompanying children to the door if an urgent message needs to be passed to the duty teacher, to minimise the number of adults on site. Please leave your child and watch them enter the building at a distance.</p> <p>If parents of the older children are able to meet their children at the school gate at pickup, this will minimise some queuing on the school grounds.</p>	<p><b><u>Year 1 and Year 2 Bubbles-</u></b></p> <p>Year 1 will enter via the normal metal entrance gate. Doors open at 8.30am and close at 8.40 am.</p> <p>Year 1 children will be dismissed from the playground at 3.15pm  Ladybirds will exit from the courtyard by the SEN outside area  Crickets will be dismissed via their classroom door.  Parents are asked to then exit the school site via the nursery gate, following the one way system.</p> <p>Year 2 enter school via the hall door. Doors open at 8.30am and close at 8.40 am. The school day will end for Year 2 at 3.15pm</p> <p>Busy Bees and Grasshoppers will be dismissed from outside the hall door at the front of the school. Fireflies will be dismissed from their classroom door, opposite the nursery and then parents are asked to exit the school site via the nursery gate, following the one way system. Please could parents not walk through the EYFS outside area to reach the Fireflies Class.</p> <p>Staff will be on hand on day one to guide you to the correct place!</p>
<p><b><u>Lower Key Stage 2 Bubble-Years 3 and 4</u></b></p> <p>Year 3/4 will enter via the brown courtyard gate, to the left of the main office.  The gate will open at 8.30am and closes at 8.40am</p> <p>We would appreciate parents only accompanying children to the gate in the morning if an urgent message needs to be passed to the duty teacher, to minimise the number of adults grouping together on site. After the first few days, please leave your child and watch them enter the gate at a distance.</p> <p>School ends for Year 3/4 at 3.20pm and they will be dismissed from the playground. Parents are asked to follow the one way system on site and exit via the nursery gate</p>	<p><b><u>EYFS Bubble -</u></b></p> <p>Early Years parents will enter via the main school metal gate and make their way to the EY classrooms via their outside area.  The gate will open at 8.30am and the first lesson will begin at 8.40am. Parents are invited to take their child to the classroom during the first week, and then to the class door in the second week when they have settled in.</p> <p>The day ends at 3.10pm  Children will be dismissed from the classroom door and parents are then asked to exit the EY area via the gate at the bottom of the garden and then exit school via the nursey gate, following the one way system.</p>

- Please follow the one-way system in place and adhere to social distancing rules wherever possible.
- We ask that if your child is accompanied to school, only one parent/carer should attend to minimise the number of people on the school site at any one time and that wherever possible, you let your child walk up to the gates independently, to avoid close groupings. Thank you
- Children (from years 5 and 6) can walk to and from school without an adult, provided permission has been given in writing.
- Please drop off and collect your child quickly – no waiting in the playground or gathering outside the school gates, in order to meet the government guidelines on social distancing.
- Important consolidation lessons will now start for all children at 8.40am so it is important that children are in school punctually: any child arriving after this time will be marked in as late

### **Friday afternoon:**

Further to our earlier correspondence about wider opening, the governing body has decided that bubbles will continue to end school after lunch on Friday afternoons, to allow for staff preparation, planning and assessment time and deep cleaning of the school. This has worked very well over the last term and needs to continue, to avoid the mixing of bubbles as would happen due to our normal procedures and working practices, which can no longer be followed. You will notice that the school day is now slightly longer for all children, and times within the day have also been adjusted, so that there is no loss of learning time.

**Early Years** will (from week 2) finish at **12.50pm** and will be dismissed from their normal dismissal points and exit via the one way system.

**Year 1 and 2** will finish at **12:55pm** and will be dismissed from their normal dismissal points and exit via the one way system.

**Years 3-6** will finish at **1.00pm** and will be dismissed from their normal dismissal points and exit via the one way system.

There will be some provision for working parents who are unable to collect due to work commitments: if you have not yet done so, please **contact the school office as soon as possible to arrange this childcare**

**Breakfast/After School Club** –We will be offering this facility again fully from September. If you would like to use this service, and have not yet booked a place please contact Kindergarten Kids <https://www.kindergartenkids.co.uk/> or contact Jessica on the club's phone 07917 004690 or head office 01227 772200

**Equipment** – We would like to encourage children to bring in their own set of equipment, to minimise sharing as much as possible. We do not usually encourage children in KS1 to bring in a pencil case, but understand that at this time, you may want your child to have their own set of pencils and pens. Year 1 and 2 would need coloured pencils, an HB pencil and eraser and a glue stick. In Key Stage Two, children will need an HB pencil, eraser, colouring pencils, a black and a blue Berol handwriting pen and a glue stick. Pencil cases should be as small as possible in order to easily fit into their trays. School bags should not need to be brought into school, but a reading book bag should be used for their reading books, and any pieces of homework. If a bag is brought in, it should be no larger than 36cm high and 30cm wide, and not too deep so that it will fit in the lockers provided. PE bags should be kept in the child's locker/peg, where coats and lunch boxes will also be stored during the school day. There is no room in lockers for large backpacks or additional bags, hence the size limit. If a child is going to a friend's/relative's house after school and need a bigger bag on occasion, this can be stored safely in the teacher's cupboard.

**Water Bottles** – Each child MUST have their own, named water bottle with a sports cap lid. This is to avoid cross contamination/sharing of cups.

**Face Masks** – children do not need to wear face masks/coverings in school. Visiting adults can choose to wear a facemask at their discretion, and you are welcome to wear a face mask when visiting the school office if you wish to do so. If parents are invited to a meeting where social distancing is difficult, we may ask you to wear a face mask.

As always, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing our Reculver family back together on Wednesday.

Best Wishes

**Mrs J Ashley-Jones**



**Headteacher**

