

Thursday 17th September 2020

Well done Everyone!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great start to school we have made over the last two weeks. I am so proud of the way the children have stepped back into learning and how well they have adapted to how things in school have changed. Our children are very settled and very happy to be back at school.

Parents and carers have made a great start to sending their children back to school too! It can't have been easy returning to new routines and having to deal with yours and your children's anxieties around the COVID 19 virus. You've done a great job in preparing your children and it shows in their lovely smiles when they are in class and spending time with their friends.

Our main aims for reopening in September were to ensure all our children felt safe and secure and that their mental health and well-being were the top of our list. Alongside this aim was the intention to ensure that children were given the appropriate work to allow them to 'catch up' for lost time - without overwhelming them. This is working out brilliantly and children are lapping up the work in class and appear to be keen to make up for this lost time. However, if your child is anxious or worried about any aspect of school please contact their class teacher so we can resolve any worries as quickly as possible.

Some of the measures we have put in place, which you may have read about in our Risk Assessment on our website – include: plenty of fresh air, from having lessons outside and not just PE. We are encouraging staff to plan lessons outside for all areas of the curriculum to maximise being outdoors. All windows around the school are always open too; there is a one-way system around school which minimises contact with other bubbles; each class has their own designated toilet and it is one in one out; eating lunch in class has proved to be popular; another measure is staggered playtimes and lunches.

All these measures are in place to ensure we keep our children safe – which is always our greatest concern.

I know you are playing your part with our safety measures by sticking to the 2m social distancing requirements, whilst on site as well as observing the playground markings we have introduced this week, which helps us get the children out of class as quickly as possible.

The staggered start and finishing times will remain in operation for the foreseeable future. As always thank you so much for your patience and kind words this week. It makes a huge difference to all our morale, as a staff to know that parents value our strong partnership.

I have attached the latest School Health Newsletter and our Frequently Asked Questions or 'What Ifs?', which hopefully will be able to clearly answer any questions you may have about what to do if you or a family member displays symptoms of COVID 19.

Please keep your eye open for any updates we give as Government guidance can change on a daily basis. Thank you all so much for your continued support.

Mr C J Coulter.