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24 August 2021.

Return to school September 2021.

Dear Parents

I hope you enjoyed the summer break and made the most of the glorious sunshine we had, especially as we had to stay close to home this year. As always, the summer seems to have flown in and most of you will be glad to see the children returning to school and back into routines again.

I was hopeful that we would return to a more normal school life in September and in many instances we can, but due to the soaring numbers of positive cases in the community, there are some restrictions we will have to keep in place for a little while longer.

Return to School.

Pupils return to school on Tuesday 31st August. As meals are not available, this is a short induction day.

All P2-P7 pupils will attend and P1 in their small groups, as advised.

P2-P3 will attend 9.00-12.00

P4-P7 will attend 9.00-12.30

School meals will be available from Wednesday 1st September. These must be booked and paid in advance on the cashless system. They remain at £2.60 per day, £13.00 for the full week. Free school meals must also be ordered on the system.

Please contact the school office if you have difficulties getting back on to the system.

Staggered start and finished times have stopped and we return to all lessons beginning at 9.00am sharp so all children should be in class before 8.55am. Pupils will go directly to their classrooms, doors open from 8.45am. Please note supervision is not available before 8.45am so children should not be in the playground before this time.

P4 to P7 should be dropped at the entrance gate and walk round to their own classroom doors. This is where they should be collected again at home time. Please do not call or remove children from their line until they are dismissed outside the gate by their teacher.

Monday to Friday finish times for KS1 will be 2.00pm. These pupils are collected from their classroom doors by designated adults only. The pupils will not be released to pickups unknown to the teacher nor to siblings under 16.

KS2 will return to 3.00pm finish on Monday to Thursday and to alleviate the Friday home time congestion and parking, P4-P7 will finish at 2.10pm

School and Book Bags

Pupils will be able to bring their belongings in a Book Bag or school bag again, as well as their own lunch bag.

P1-P3 must use the school's Book Bag designed specifically for their reading books and homework folders.

These are available in school or at our designated uniform supplier, Schooldays, at Hollywood Arches. We have subsidised these considerably over the past years but cannot continue to do so, so you may notice a jump in price. These will be £8.99.

Only P4-7 may bring school bags. Please try not to buy overly large bags as these are hung on backs of chairs and can make it difficult moving around the room.

All children should bring their own pencil case and the list of stationery items requested. Pupils should continue to use only their own belongings and maintain good hand sanitisation.

Fruit and Milk.

Fruit and milk will not start until Monday 6th September. You will receive information next week about ordering these and the costs for the first half term. For the first week, please provide your child with their own fruit and water. Please note fizzy drinks and cordial are not permitted. We follow healthy breaks with fruit only and still, non-flavoured water on desks.

Uniform

Schooldays remains our official uniform supplier and they will keep you right regarding correct uniform for KS1 and KS2. Please note we return to our main winter uniform and P4 move to a shirt and tie.

Please stick with our designated provider as we have found their clothing to be good quality and of consistent colour, and they remain there all year should you need top ups or have any problems.

PE kits.

As our hall remains out of use until at least Halloween PE kits will not be required yet. A pair of trainers should be sent in and, if possible, kept in school for outdoor PE.

The school PE kit, available from Schooldays is a set T-shirt and shorts, provided in a school draw string bag. We will confirm when these are required.

P1 and P2 do not change into kits and require only black plimsoles for PE.

Playgrounds

Social distancing remains in place so please avoid close contact in the school grounds during drop-off or collection.

After school clubs

As our hall remains out of use for pupils due to social distancing and some bubbling of year groups, our programme of after school activities will not recommence until after Halloween, subject to the removal of remaining restrictions.

If you have concerns or questions, please contact the school. I look forward to seeing all of our children back next week in Victoria Park.

Kind regards,
Mrs Gourley.