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18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## September Update 4

Dear Parents & Carers

Well I think things are starting to settle down. The children and staff all now seem to be settled into their new daily routines and 'normal' lessons have started again this week.

### Classroom timetable

We are currently assessing all the children on their reading skills and this information will help to inform teachers when giving out reading books to come home. English and Maths lessons have also started and we are focusing on basic skills in both these lessons. In English we are re-capping spelling, punctuation and grammar skills and in Maths we are looking at the four operations and place value.

The next few weeks will be spent looking at what the children can remember and consolidating these skills before we think about moving on to the next steps. Any pupils that are struggling will be given additional support through intervention programmes. Differentiation will be used to ensure any pupils that are ready to move on can do so.

The rest of the curriculum has also started again and pupils are now getting back into PE, French, History, Geography, Art, Science and Music. Everyone also has a weekly PSHE session on Wednesday mornings. This half term the whole school is working through a series of 6 sessions based around the Recovery Curriculum principles to support children returning to school after a period of lost learning and disruption. These are principles that were developed after the earthquakes that took place in New Zealand a few years ago and support pupils to consider how they feel, give them time and space to discuss their feelings and build resilience.

Children continue to have an extra afternoon playtime as we are noticing that many are struggling to keep focus throughout the afternoons and are becoming more tired as the week progresses. We are planning to keep this extra playtime for this half term and then review.

Whole school assemblies still take place 4 days a week and these are conducted through Microsoft Teams so classes can remain in their own 'bubbles' but still see each other and



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come together to discuss whole school topics and celebrate achievements. During assemblies this week we have discussed our feelings and asked the children to feedback to us on how they feel they are settling in. The results of that session are attached to this newsletter as I thought you might be interested in hearing what the children said. We will use this feedback to help us plan the coming weeks and months to ensure we support the children as effectively as we can.

### **End of Day**

Things seem to be settling at the end of day but we are still concerned about the large numbers gathering to use the crossing. Please can you make sure that you wait within the school grounds if a crowd has developed and move forward when that group crosses. Please try to keep a distance from those around you and give everyone space. Please feel free to wear a mask during pick up time. There is no guidance that requires we ask you to wear one outdoors but if social distancing remains an issue it may be something that we recommend.

Remember, everyone can help by making sure they do the following:

- Come into the school grounds to collect your child. Please don't wait by the front wall as this creates additional blockages on the pavement.
- Do not wait around the main pedestrian gate. This is the pinch point where we are seeing large groups gathering. Please keep this area clear.
- If you are sending older siblings to meet pupils from Y5 & Y6 please make sure they understand that if they come onto the school grounds then they must come alone, not with a group of 2 or 3 friends. If they are in a group please tell them to wait outside and meet the sibling off the school site.
- Try to make sure that just one adult comes to collect your child. This will cut down on the number of people on site and needing to use the crossing.
- Ensure you socially distance from others not in your household while you are waiting for your child.
- Please be mindful that some parents/carers/grandparents that are collecting are classed as vulnerable. It is important that we keep each other safe.
- If another family member collects your child please make sure you have informed them of any changes or updates to the routines.

### **Illness & Attendance**

Attendance continues to be good, with an average of about 10 pupils absent from school each day. We seem to have a cold-like bug going round and some sickness. We are seeing fewer people requesting Covid tests this week but it is important that if your child has a high temperature (above 37.8) and/or a new continuous cough and/or loss of taste or smell then they must self-isolate and we must advise you to get a Covid test done. These can be accessed through the online booking system or by calling 119.



We are sending texts out if someone in the year group has POSSIBLE Covid symptoms just so you know what is going on. A follow up text will then be sent to confirm negative or positive results when we are made aware of them.

Thanks again for everything that you are doing to support us to keep everyone safe. Particular thanks for socially distancing while waiting for the children to come out, ensuring PE kit is worn on the correct days and also for keeping us informed of illness. You are doing a great job!

Best wishes to everyone.

Mrs S Frost  
Headteacher

### Settling back in feedback from children 17.9.20

Question	Responses
1. What do you like most about being back at school?	Being with friends Football Learning new things Seeing my teachers Swimming PE Forest Schools Drawing/Art Not being bored at home Assembly
2. Is there anything you are finding difficult about being back at school?	Getting up early Remembering the rules Not touching each other Trying to stay awake Keeping a distance from others Having to have separate play areas
3. Is there anything that you think we could do differently/better at school?	Motion sensor taps More football time Longer playtimes Snacks in the classroom Social distance markers in the corridors Nap time

<p>4. Is there anything that you are missing that we used to do at school but aren't doing now?</p>	<p>Seeing other year groups Trips Painting Singing After school clubs Buddies Going on the grass near the forest Coming to school on bikes Having assembly in the hall</p>
<p>5. Our health &amp; wellbeing is the most important thing for us all to think about- what are you doing to keep healthy?</p>	<p>Running Eating healthy snacks &amp; meals Drink plenty of water Have fruit before school Less time on devices Going to bed earlier Walking Getting fresh air Doing sports Tell a trusted adult if I'm worried</p>