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September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have managed to enjoy time with your family and friends over the summer break. The teachers have been working hard to prepare their classrooms for the children’s return, and we are looking forward to welcoming them back on Monday. I write with a few reminders before a lengthier communication once the term begins.

**School start/finish times**

Please remember that the start/finish times have changed, as shown opposite – the gates will still be opened at 08:40, and on wet days children will be allowed into the building from that time.

	Start	Finish
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>08:55</b>	<b>14:55</b>
<b>Reception, Year 1 and 2</b>	<b>08:45</b>	<b>15:15</b>
<b>Years 3-6</b>		<b>15:25</b>

**Staffing**

With Mr McCleary having departed, Mrs Laura Brown has been appointed as our Site Maintenance Officer. Most of you will know Mrs Brown from her role as Car Park Supervisor, a role she will continue with (in addition to her post as Middy Supervisor – she wears many hats!).

**Healthy Living**

**Nut-free School**

Please note that the school is a nut-free area. There are several pupils whose health would be placed at severe risk if they were to come into contact with nuts or nut products in any shape or form, and for their benefit we ask that no such products are brought onto the school site (in packed lunches/breaktime snacks, for example).

***Milk or Water Only School***

As announced at the end of the summer term, the school has adopted a ‘Milk or Water Only’ approach to drinks on the school site. All pupils will receive a free *GULP (Give Up Loving Pop)* water bottle during the first week back, although they are of course welcome to continue using one they already own, since water bottles have been in use in school for many years. Our approach will emphasise education as to the health benefits of water/milk only, so we will not be confiscating juice, but will encourage all children and parents/carers to embrace the policy.

Coincidentally, our catering provider (*Edsential*) has informed us that they will only be providing water as part of the school lunch offer – while this step has been taken for financial reasons, it aligns with our new policy.

**School Meals**

School lunches will cost £2.41 per day for children in Years 3 to 6 (younger children continue to receive state-funded school lunches). Please remember to complete the online dinner menu by Thursday (midnight) each week, to enable the catering staff to order appropriately, and pay in advance using *Parent Pay*. The 3-week menu for this year can be viewed at this link: [MENU](#)



## Updated health guidance: Covid-19 and other respiratory infections

More detailed government guidance can be obtained by clicking [HERE](#).

### Pupils

Pupils who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. **They can go back to school and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.**

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

**If your child tests positive for Covid-19**, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. **After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, they can return to school.**

### Parents/carers

**If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection**, such as COVID-19, and you have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to go to work or carry out normal activities, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until you no longer have a high temperature (if you had one) or until you no longer feel unwell. **Please do not attend the school site.**

**If you test positive for Covid-19**, you should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days after the day you took the test. **Please do not attend the school site during this 5 day period.**

### PE news

We are very pleased to announce that we have **regained our national School Games Mark silver award**, after a gap in applications due to Covid. Many thanks to Miss Carpenter for her work as PE co-ordinator, and to all the teaching staff for providing a varied diet both of PE within school and inter-school competition.



**Playground markings** to encourage physical activity have been installed on the infant playground during the summer break – we trust these will add further variety to playtimes.

Please note that, for the coming year, **children will continue to be allowed to attend school in their PE kit on days when their class has a scheduled PE session** – class teachers will inform you of these via the usual channels (*Google Classroom/Tapestry* and the school website) as soon as possible.

**School clubs** will recommence during the second week back (week beginning Sep 12<sup>th</sup>). Details will be sent out at the start of next week.

### Leave of Absence requests (holidays, attendance at religious festivals etc)

Please remember that requests for *Leave of Absence* must be made using the appropriate form, available online (*Parents page, Forms*) and from the school office, and must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the start of the period requested. **Such requests will be authorised only in 'exceptional circumstances'**, as defined by the government, and parents may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice for an unauthorised absence of 5 school days or more. **Term-time holidays will not be approved.**

These regulations only apply once a child has reached statutory school age (5 years old), but we would still appreciate completion of the relevant form by Nursery parents and parents of Reception children who are still only 4, to assist the office staff.

Further information is available online from CWAC ([Taking children on holiday during term time](#))

**Term/holiday dates** can be accessed [HERE](#).

We look forward to seeing you all on Monday – enjoy the rest of the weekend.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Rose'.

Mr Rose  
Headteacher