

Head teacher's weekly Bulletin: Term 1 Week 1, Friday 11th September 2020

Welcome the first official newsletter of the school year.

I need to start by saying two very important things: Welcome and Thank you!

I am delighted to officially welcome everyone back to school. Despite these strange and challenging times, I hope you have had a great summer break and enjoyed some quality time together safely with family and friends.

Welcome:

- Welcome back to all of the children and families of our school. As I said in a Parent mail earlier in the week, Tuesday morning was just so uplifting, as I did a meet and greet on arrival back. It has been brilliant to have so many happy, enthusiastic and smiley children back in school.
- Welcome to all of the new children and families, mainly in Reception/Eagle class, but also within the older classes too. It is great to have you on board. The way in which everyone has settled back is inspiring to us all. In such difficult circumstances, after such a long period away for school for many, it has been brilliant to see such a positive response. Well done everyone!
- Welcome to the new staff team members. Miss Craven (Y6 Red Kite class), Miss Jackson (Y1 Harrier class who joins the team for the year) and with Mrs Woodhouse covering Mrs Longfield's absence (in Year4/5 Peregrine class for the start of term). Welcome folks – we are delighted to have you with us. A great start!
- We also welcome back Simon Carson Sport coaches (Mr Green and Mr Montgomery) who worked with us last year and who will be working with Peregrine and Red Kites class in the first instance.

Thank you!

- Thank you for helping make the systems work – we planned them, but your full cooperation has made them very effective - well done all!
- Thankyou for the warm, supportive spirit, good humour and patience you have all shown to the staff team!
- Thank you for being positive with the children which in turn has made their positive return successful
- Thank you to Eagle class parents for being brave in stepping back and letting your curious and enthusiastic children step inside school without you. This has been so effective and helpful, and obviously has helped keep everyone safe.

A few changes to our systems for next week and beyond:

- Drop off times:

As things have run so smoothly, and to maximize teaching time, we will asking everyone **to arrive between 8.45 and 9.00** (rather than 9.05). The gates will be locked at 9.00, so lessons can start more quickly next week. The vast majority of people have already been in within this 15-minute window and we have reflected and decided that we do not need 20 minutes.

In addition, can we remind people that children should not arrive (even without parents for Year 5&6) before 8.45am.

- PE Kits

We are sending all PE kits home on Friday. **From next week children should wear their PE Kit for the days when they are doing PE in school.** Please see below for details of which days each class take part in PE.

PE kits should be as per the Uniform Policy:

- Red collared t-shirt or Red plain t-shirt
- Black or dark grey shorts (or tracksuit bottoms, joggers, or leggings)
- Tracksuit top, fleece, jumper or 'zippy' - ideally these should red, black, or dark grey and should be plain (e.g. no large logo on – it is not a fashion show!) In the short term a plain top is appropriate.
- Trainers or pumps (suitable for outdoor use)

We have made this decision to help with maximising learning time, organisational timings, and safety (space for changing safely etc.) It also means there are less things to bring into and from school.

For the start of the year this excludes Reception/Eagle class who will not be getting changed for P.E, in the first instance.

Please see chart below for the PE days moving forward from Monday 14th September 2020.

September 2020 Class Names and Teachers			PE DAYS
Eagle	Mrs Smith	Rec	Monday (later in term)
Harrier	Miss Jackson	Y1	Friday (Forest School on Tuesday)
Kestrel	Mrs Burton	Y2	Wednesday and Thursday
Osprey	Miss Marshall	Y3 & Y4	Tuesday and Thursday
Peregrine	Mrs Woodhosue	Y4 & Y5	Monday and Wednesday
Red Kite	Miss Craven	Y6	Monday and Wednesday

If have received a letter about Forest Schools and your child is participating in this activity you can choose whether they wear their outdoor/forest school kit for the whole day or whether they bring in a bag and get changed for the session in school. As the groups for this activity are small numbers, this can be managed easily in school.

Other important information:

- PLEASE ensure all children have their names in all of their school uniform.

I will be sharing more important information over the next few weeks.

Thanks again for your positivity and enthusiastic start to the new term, especially with regards to safety procedures. A great start to a strange year/ Here's to super and safe term and year ahead!

Regards and best wishes

Jon Watson

Head teacher

Developing lively, inquiring and creative minds