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Working Together in God's Hands

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new academic year! I hope you have all managed to spend some time together as a family over the summer and look forward to hearing the children's stories of adventures and holidays. As a staff we returned to school on Wednesday this week and having spent time in the summer preparing classrooms, we have spent the last few days sharing training ready for the new school year. This year in particular feels like a fresh start in many ways and I am excited about what the year ahead holds for us all!

Return to School

Over the summer, the Government has released further guidance to schools on the management of the risk related to Coronavirus. Whilst there continues to be an emphasis on good hygiene and ventilation, I am delighted to say that many of our systems will be able to return to a more usual pattern.

Pupils can **arrive any time between 8:45am and 9:00 am** each day and parents can escort their children to the outside door of their classroom using the one-way system around the school building. Rather than having a window for collection at the end of the school day, **we will be returning to a set finish time of 3:30pm** and parents can collect children from their classrooms.

Within the school, we will no longer be operating a 'bubble' system. Whilst we will still work largely in single class situations, break times and lunchtimes will not involve distinct 'zones' or areas in which class groups can play.

One of the most exciting changes for us is the return to a full timetable of Collective Worship which can once again take place as a whole school. This will include our Celebration Worship on a Friday, however, parents will not be able to attend at this time. There are many changes happening to the way we are operating as a school and whilst we embrace this, we must also proceed with a degree of caution. This will remain under review and we hope to have more opportunities for parents to come into school as soon as possible.

Masks will no longer be required on site, although parents are welcome to opt to wear them. We do however request that should you wish to meet with a member of staff, you do wear a mask. We appreciate your understanding on this.

Both Government and Trust guidance do however, also stress that we must be responsive to Covid cases in our area and that there may be points at which risks are considered to have increased and stricter systems will have to be put temporarily in place in order to protect pupils, parents and staff.

Our Pause for Thought

*"This is the day
the Lord has made;
We will rejoice and be glad
in it."*

Psalm 118:24

Our Value of the Term is

Justice

Covid-19

A return to more normal routines in school is greatly welcomed by us all, I am sure, but unfortunately there are still considerable numbers of cases of Coronavirus both locally and nationally. I therefore request that parents remain vigilant in terms of managing children's illness and where a child displays any one of the three main Coronavirus symptoms (a temperature, a persistent cough or a loss of taste/smell) then they should seek a PCR test and isolate their child as per Government guidance. Further advice on when to self isolate can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

PE

As we shared at the end of the last school year, we have decided to continue with children attending school in their PE kit for their PE sessions. I would like to stress that this should always be school PE kit, as prescribed in the school uniform policy. Sessions will be held as follows:

Monday: Class 2
Tuesday: Class 4
Wednesday: Class 1
Friday: Class 3

On **Wednesday 8th September, Reception children are not required to wear their PE kit** and should attend school in their uniform.

Kingswood Lunches

For those taking Kingswood meals, hopefully, you have remembered to book your child's lunches for next week! If not, please ensure you provide a packed lunch.

School Bursar

On a final, slightly sadder note, I would like to share that our school Bursar, Michele Bennett, has chosen to retire and will not be re-joining us at the start of this school year. Michele has worked at the school for many years and will be very much missed by staff and pupils. I would like to thank her personally for the support and professionalism in her time here and wish her all the very best for her retirement.

I look forward to seeing most of you on Monday and to welcoming our new Reception children on Wednesday.

Have a restful weekend.

Jo Shortland
Headteacher