



Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope this letter finds everyone well? We have had another wonderful fortnight in school. With the exception of families who are isolating, attendance at school is continuing to improve- we have now welcomed nearly every single child back to school and there are lots of smiling faces!

It is a great relief to all of us that despite having a number of pupils tested for Covid that none have resulted in a positive test. We are doing everything we can in school to keep everyone safe including lots of handwashing so long may this continue! Please can parents be reminded that if their child or another member of their household is tested that we will need a copy of the negative test result before children can return to school. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

We are continuing to make changes to routines and procedures in school as appropriate, and we are very grateful for families who have made contact with school to ask questions or make suggestions. Overall, school is operating as close to 'business as usual' as is possible and this is testament to the staff, children and our families.

You will know that we introduced the offer of breakfast for all children this week and this has been really well received. It has been fantastic to see children enjoying croissants, cereal bars, yoghurt, juice and milk first thing in the morning and this is setting them up really well for a busy day of learning.

You will remember that I wrote to you last month about how the contact groups are organised- each year group has a dedicated zone within the school where they can complete independent learning task, supervised by a teaching assistant. This has meant that not only are the children developing more independence and creativity, but they are also able to space out and distance from each other where possible.

You should have received a text message on Wednesday confirming that Chartwells (our catering providers) will be offering a full menu from next Monday 5th October including hot meal options. The menu is available on our website in the 'Letters Home' section. School dinners will continue to be served and eaten in classrooms for the foreseeable future as we cannot risk contact groups mixing in the hall. Please can parents be reminded that if ParentPay accounts are in arrears that they will not be permitted to order a school dinner and will need to provide their child with a packed lunch from home.

During playtimes and lunchtimes, children remain within their year group 'bubble' or contact group and stay on a designated playground. Lunchtimes are staggered to allow everyone a slot on the playground and the first part of the lunch break is spent in the classroom. There have been notably fewer behaviour incidents since these arrangements



have been in place and we think it may be because children are not rushing their food to get out onto the playground, they are enjoying the calm atmosphere eating in classrooms and because they have more space due to the staggered playtimes- all very positive!

Home learning tasks will be set from next week and posted on Seesaw and we ask that all children are encouraged to complete them as this will be a vital part of the children's learning should we experience any form of lockdown, whether that be nationally or year group contact groups. In the event that a year group needs to isolate, a more detailed home learning menu will be posted on Seesaw. Home learning books will be sent home, complete with all the necessary login details for Hwb, Seesaw, Purple Mash, Reading Bug and in Y5 and Y6 Google Classroom.

Please keep an eye on the changing weather from this week and remember that we have to keep windows in classrooms open to ensure good ventilation. As the weather cools, please make sure your child is suitably dressed with vests, t-shirts/shirt, cardigans/jumpers and tights as we don't want them to get cold. On your child's PE day, please ensure they are wearing navy leggings, joggers and a navy jumper or hoodie to keep nice and warm!

Take care everyone and have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Burke