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Thursday 3rd September, 2020

Dear Parents

Last Minute Details

Tomorrow, we eventually reopen our doors to all our children and are very much looking forward to it. There are going to be many challenges to face over the next few months but we will deal with those as and when they surface. This week's biggest hurdle has been the fact that we have, once again, been without Internet and therefore without phones etc - apologies if you have been trying to call us but we are up and running again now.

As we have been making our final plans this week, there are a number of things that we have added to our reopening plan:

- We will not be hosting our normal meet the teacher events after school tomorrow - you will instead be sent a detailed letter with all the key information on it. As in my previous letter, contact with teachers will need to be by email or phone in the main, with video conferencing being used when appropriate. We will anticipate that parents' evening will also be quite different this term - we will be looking at holding them later than normal to give ourselves more time to work with the children after the long break.
- As we will have a much greater number of parents arriving at school and waiting in a relatively confined space, albeit outside, we are asking you to wear a face-covering at pick up and drop off times. Ideally, there should be just one parent per family to keep the level of contact as low as possible. We also want to emphasise that we expect parents to observe social distancing principles in regard to staff and ask you to stand back away from teachers when they come to collect the children in the morning.
- All visitors to school, including parents, will be required to wear a face-covering when they are in the building - please be prepared for this.
- Reducing the amount of things that travel between home and school is a key part of our plan to reduce the Covid risk at school, we will therefore be making changes to the way we organise homework. Over the first few weeks we will focus on revisiting and building the basic skills around reading, phonics, spelling and maths facts - teachers may give children hard copies of things we want them to learn/do but we will not be wanting to have these returned each week. Teachers will let you know what they want returned and when. We will also be using the website a lot more to reduce the amount of paper that is in use and will give you details about this early next week. We will be reintroducing the homework projects and more in depth activities once the term has settled down and will probably have a sharing week/day late in the term where children bring in all their homework in one go.
- We will no longer allow children to be given Calpol in school unless a doctor has given permission for this to happen. Calpol reduces temperature and may therefore make it difficult to spot symptoms in a child. We would also expect parents to keep children at home if they need Calpol to cope with

their day - if they are sufficiently unwell to need Calpol, they should not be in school. If your child is prescribed antibiotics please contact the school so that we can agree the best way to do this safely.

- I have emphasised to the staff that it is part of their responsibility to the school community to ensure that they abide by the latest guidance/regulations even when they are away from work. I would very much hope that parents will take the same attitude to what they and their children do away from school. It would be very demoralising for us to find that families are not doing their best to stick to the regulations when we have put so much work into making school as secure as we can.

I am sure that there will be many other issues that will come up over the next few days and please feel free to contact me if there is anything you need to discuss.

Martin Adamson