



PHONES

Please **do not use mobile phones** on the school site whilst children are present. Aside from the obvious safeguarding issues this presents, you are also putting yourself at risk of a serious accusation. Please do not be offended if a member of staff asks you to put your phone away.

THANK YOU

Whilst I could moan for England (as many of you know!) about the present situation, I very much want to thank the many parents who have taken time to stop and thank us for what we have done to try to make this school as safe as possible for everyone. Your appreciation that we are doing the best we can, means so much – thank you.

On this subject, I receive a ridiculous amount of COVID related information every day, but I wondered if you knew that the DfE publish information specifically for parents. Below is a link to “*What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term*”. If you access this newsletter via the school website, the link is live. There is probably little in it that you have not already heard numerous times via the news, but I thought some of you may be interested

www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak

As many of you will be aware, we are constantly reviewing our routines and procedures in order to ensure that we address everything we consider to be a risk. Although it does not list every mortal thing that we do, you can find a copy of the most recent review of our risk assessment on the school website – follow the News and Events tab and then the School Closure signpost (very misleading I know! I’ll get Mr Cotterill on it!)

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A number of parents have asked whether we will be allowing Christmas cards this year. Obviously it would not be appropriate to have our usual school post box, but in my opinion, neither would it be appropriate to just say that I will not allow cards at all. So, to try to minimise any disappointment for the children, keeping it to sending cards to children in the same class/year group that your child is in seems sensible.

We will need to “quarantine” any cards bought in before giving them out, so the last day that they can be bought in will be **Monday 14th December**. Children should place the cards they bring in into a box which teachers will have ready from December 1st.

Please do not send them in before 1st December or after 14th December and please understand that we will not distribute any sent to children outside the child’s bubble.

School Governors

I am very pleased to tell you that one of your Parent Governors, Mrs Wendy Lamb, has been elected as our new Chair of Governors. In welcoming Wendy to this position I must also convey our deepest gratitude to Mr Prosser who has held this position for many years.

Although stepping down from the role of Chair, he will continue to offer the school his support as a governor. I am also extremely pleased to tell you that your other representative on the Governing Body, Mr Dave Westbury, will continue as the Vice Chair of Governors.

Dinner Menu

I have attached a copy of the menu for school dinners from November 2nd 2020 to March 31st 2021. There is also a copy on our website (via the News & Events tab).

If your child has a school dinner, please take a moment to look with them. This will help them to choose what they want for dinner when they are asked in the morning at register time.

The kitchen do try their hardest to make sure that what they serve is what is on the menu, but I am aware that occasionally the suppliers let them down and they have to make a change without warning. However, this only happens very occasionally.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Monday 14 th December	Last day to bring Christmas cards in
Friday 18 th December	Term ends
Monday 21 st December to Friday 1 st January 2021	Christmas Holiday
Monday 4 th January	Training Day – School closed to pupils.
Tuesday 5 th January	Pupils return to school
Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February	Half Term
Wednesday 31 st March	Last day of term for pupils
Thursday 1 st April	Training Day – School closed to pupils.
Friday 2 nd April to Friday 16 th April	Easter Holiday
Monday 19 th April	Pupils return to school (<u>NO TRAINING DAY</u>)
Monday 3 rd May	May Day Bank Holiday – school closed
Thursday 6 th May	Polling day tbc
Friday 7 th May	Training Day – School closed to pupils.
Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June	Half Term
Wednesday 21 st July	Last day of term
Thursday 22 nd July to Wednesday 1 st September	Summer Holiday