Monday 13th July 2020

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to let you know that, under current government and PHE guidance, we are looking forward to welcoming back all our children from September 2020.

Monday 31st August: Bank Holiday

Tuesday 1st September: INSET day – school closed to pupils

Wednesday 2nd September: INSET day – school closed to pupils

Thursday 3rd September: Children in Years 1-6 return to school full time (Mon-Fri)

Week beginning 7th September: Induction mornings for Nursery and Reception (see separate letters)

Monday 14th September: Nursery and Reception children start school full time (Mon-Fri)

The teachers and TAs for next year are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Year Group | Teacher | TA |
| Nursery | Miss Hannan | Miss Crombie |
| Reception | Miss Ellis | Miss March |
| Year 1 | Miss Chauhan | Mrs Newcombe |
| Year 2 | Mr McMahon | Mrs Harrison |
| Year 3 | Mrs Bowden | Mrs Urch |
| Year 4 | Miss Heard | Mrs Pring |
| Year 5 | Mrs Phull | Miss Geoghan |
| Year 6 | Mr Maher and Miss Stokes | Mrs Hanson-Le |

In order to ensure that health and safety are prioritised at all times, there will continue to be several changes in school.

This includes at the starts and ends of the day:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Drop off time | Drop off gate and door | Pick up time | Pick up gate and door |
| Nur | 8.45-8.55am | Nursery gate  Nursery door | 12.00pm | Nursery gate  Nursery door |
| Rec | 9.00-9.10am | Nursery gate  Reception door | 3.15pm | Nursery gate  Reception door |
| Year 1 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Playground gate  KS1 door | 3.05pm | Playground gate  KS1 door |
| Year 2 | 9.00 – 9.10am | Playground gate  KS1 door | 3.15pm | Playground gate  KS1 door |
| Year 3 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Playground gate  KS2 door | 3.05pm | Playground gate  KS2 door |
| Year 4 | 9.00 – 9.10am | Playground gate  KS1 door | 3.15pm | Playground gate  KS2 door |
| Year 5 | 8.45 – 8.55am | Pedestrian gate  Main door | 3.05pm | Pedestrian gate  Main door |
| Year 6 | 9.00 – 9.10am | Pedestrian gate  Main door | 3.15pm | Pedestrian gate  Main door |

**Class Bubbles**

Children will remain in their class “bubbles” throughout each day in school. This includes at playtimes and lunchtimes. Children will not work in different groups or in classrooms other than those which are assigned to their individual bubble. Unfortunately, this means there

will be no indoor PE and no assemblies for now.

**Will breakfast club be operating?**

Yes. Breakfast club will reopen from 7.45am. Children will be asked to sit in a designated area according to what class bubble they are in. This is to ensure social distancing is maximised as much as possible. Parents requiring a place at breakfast club for their child should contact the school office on 0121 464 4497 or pop in to school to speak to Miss Stokes in the school office. Breakfast club will be charged at £1.50 per child per day, with siblings being £1.00 per day. There are a limited number of free places available for FSM children, although these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to offer free places for all FSM children.

**Will parents be allowed to bring children into school?**

No. In order to keep the building as safe as possible, we will be asking parents to bring children onto the school playground through designated gates and send children in through their allocated door. When picking children up at the end of the day, markings on the playground will indicate where parents should stand. It will be important for these markings to be adhered to for the safety of everyone.

If children are upset, they will be comforted as much as possible, with social distancing in mind. We will, of course, contact parents if any children become distressed during any part of the school day and will decide, with you, whether they should be collected.

This also means that communication with teachers / school staff will need to be carried out by phone / text / email whenever possible. Next term, all letters will be posted on the website and emailed out to parents. No paper copies will be sent home.

**What if I am late arriving at school with my child?**

In order to maintain good social distancing, it will be important for children to arrive at the correct time of the day (see the table on the previous page). If they are late, they will need to be brought to the pedestrian gate and a parent will need to wait there with them until they can be safely collected and brought into school.

**What will my child need to wear to school?**

Children will need to wear full school in uniform. This will need to be kept clean in the same way as normal. You will be informed when your child’s PE day is and on this day they should come to school in outdoor PE kit and trainers. They will not be able to change into this during the school day.

**Lunches, Play Time Snacks and Water Bottles**

From September children will once again be able to bring packed lunches and water bottles to school. These will need to be returned home every day for cleaning and children will not be able to leave them in school.

School meals will continue to be provided in “grab bags” so that children do not need to gather in the school hall for lunch. I am working closely with the kitchen staff to ensure that these are tasty and as varied as possible and that they contain a few yummy treats. Chidlren entitled to FSM will continue to receive a free school lunch if they choose to. From September, for children who pay for dinners, the price will be

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with fruit as a snack at playtime. Unfortunately, this provision will no longer be in place for KS2. Therefore, these children may bring a healthy snack for playtime. Crisps, chocolate, sweets, biscuits, etc, are not permitted.

**What will my child be learning?**

Children will be accessing learning appropriate for their ability / age / year group in line with the National Curriculum, as they usually would. This will include phonics, reading, writing, maths, PE and topic. We are aware that some parents will be worried that children will have lots of “catching up” to do. We understand this too and will support children in this over the next few months. However, it is also important to allow children to settle back into school and adjust to their new classrooms and routines, etc.

**What will it feel like in school?**

Of course your child will notice some changes in school, although we hope that they will also have a sense of at least a degree of normality again once they are back with their whole class. We will be doing everything we can to ensure that children feel happy and

emotionally healthy in school and their new classes. As a small school, we highly value our “family” feel and we hope that this will help children to settle back in quickly.

**Will PPE be used in school?**

PPE is not advised for use in school. Therefore, staff and children will not be wearing it. The only exception to this is for First Aid; if children have accidents or need intimate care (changing), or if people become ill and need looking after. There will be a First Aider on site at all times to deal with these situations as they arise. This member of staff will wear full PPE to protect themselves and the person they are looking after.

Children travelling to school on public transport must follow government guidance to wear a face mask whilst doing so. These must be disposable and binned on arrival in the school playground.

**Do I have to send my child back to school?**

Yes. All children are now, according to government guidance, expected to be back in school full time.

**What procedures will the school have in place should a child or adult show symptoms for Covid 19?**

The person will be placed into isolation with a First Aider, who will be using PPE. They will then be sent home as quickly as possible and recommended for testing. They will remain at home until a negative test result comes back or until they are better. If the test is positive, the whole bubble will need to isolate at home for 14 days, along with their families.

**What should I do if my child or someone in my family develops symptoms before / after they have been in school?**

You should immediately inform the school that a member of your family is showing symptoms. Your whole family should be tested as soon as possible. The person with symptoms should remain isolated until a negative test result is reeived or until they are better. Everyone else should continue to isolate for 14 days as they may develop symptoms at a later point.

**Has Tame Valley had any Covid-19 cases since the lockdown?**

Not as far as we know. However, if any families have had **cases that have been confirmed by a positive test result**, it would be useful to let us know.

I hope this information is useful. We are so looking forward to seeing all the children back in school in September. We have missed every single one of you.

In the meantime, continue to take care of yourselves and your families.

Yours sincerely



Miss C Nock

Headteacher