



NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we come towards the end of our third full week I feel I should mention how proud of the children we all are. They have come back to school in a positive manner, eager to display the excellent learning behaviours that will enable them to move forward in these strange times. They have accepted all the changes in place and learnt to manage in the new normal. There will always be the odd exception to the above, as in any normal year, but overall the children have done fantastically well.

A special mention should go to our new Reception intake who have settled into school life extremely well in the vast majority of cases.

The children are continually being assessed for gaps in learning or other issues as the result of the enforced closure. With the children demonstrating such a good attitude to learning we have been able to get ahead in this process and begin the process of moving forward once again.

There will always be other issues that arise in school but please speak to either the staff, Mrs Lowe or myself if you have any queries or concerns, however minor. As we say on every newsletter, please do not wait to contact us because the sooner we know about any issue the quicker we can resolve it.

STAFF CHANGES

Today we are saying goodbye to one of our teaching assistants, Mrs Marshall, who is embarking upon a new career path. We wish her every happiness and success for her future endeavours.

Current staff in school will be undertaking additional hours in the Year 2 class until a new appointment is made.

PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

This year more than ever it is key that we find a way to communicate with all parents this term as to how your children have settled, where your children are academically and any impact from closure and most importantly the next steps that will be taken.

With restrictions as they are these consultations will have to be done remotely either by phone or possibly be a virtual meeting mechanism. We are actively looking at the latter, as this will be the best option. These meetings will take place during the last two

weeks of this half term and we will be in touch as soon as we can.

CLASS CHATS

Linked to the above, on our return to school it quickly became evident that our normal events for parents would need to be adapted. In place of our usual class chats we have created a 'class chat' powerpoint that is available via our website (in the parent section).

[Welcome to Richard Wakefield](#)

For all other key information please refer to class pages on the website.

SNACKS AT PLAYTIME

EYFS and Key stage 1

Our deliveries of fruit and vegetable snacks have now resumed for the children in EYFS and Key Stage 1. All snacks are handed out after thorough cleansing of all hands; the children are reminded of the need for cleanliness!

If you still wish to send in snacks from home we ask that you follow the same guidelines as Key Stage 2 (below).

Key Stage 2

Key Stage 2 children are welcome to bring in a snack from home to eat at playtime. We ask that these snacks meet the following guidelines:

- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Plain biscuits
- Cereal bars that DO NOT contain nuts
- Cheese snacks

This list is not exhaustive however we ask that your child does not eat sweets, crisps, chocolate or anything that contains/is covered in chocolate for their playtime snack. These items can of course be included in their balanced lunch.

There are children in our school with severe nut allergies, we ask that **all snacks are nut free** to ensure their safety whilst in our school. If it says **may contain nuts** on the packaging please do not send the snack in. We know that you will want to support us in keeping all of our children safe.

ILLNESS and ABSENCE

Please report illness in the same way as before with a phone call to the office. Many of you will be erring on the side of caution regarding this area.

Please refer to the recent letter on our website from the Public Health department for the most up-to-date advice. We appreciate that advice and guidance does keep changing – we will endeavour to update you as often as we can.

This letter can be found in the news section of our website and the newsletter page.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

We have continued to monitor the arrangements in place for the morning and after school routines. With the current changes in government direction regarding social distancing it is paramount that we take every care on school site to keep our school community safe.

We ask that all adults on site adhere to the following:

- One adult per family on site
- Enter the site at the correct time for your child to minimise the groups of adults at each school door:
AM
8.40am - KS2 and siblings
8.50am - KS1 and siblings
8.55am – EYFS (note slight change from 9.00am)
- At the end of the day enter the site at the following times:
3.00pm – EYFS
3.10pm – KS1
3.20pm – KS2
- Avoid standing/gathering in the high traffic areas:
 - The corner of the Year 2 classroom
 - The 'grass' entrance to the EYFS/Y3S/Y4 classrooms

Please support us in allowing adults and children to travel comfortably through our site.

As we enter the wetter months, we are exploring the options for providing a more suitable surface than the grass. Please be assured that this is high on our list of priorities and will be addressed as soon as we are able.

OUR NEW VALUES

As part of the de Ferrers MAT every academy has now adopted the Trust wide values of:

'WORK HARD, BE KIND, CHOOSE WISELY'

These values are at the heart of our vision and values for all of the children in our care to aspire to. Our kindness value has been particularly important on our return to school: thinking about being kind to others as we adjust to this current way of life.

As a Church of England school, our Christian values blend perfectly with our Trust wide values.

These are our new values and will replace 'Aim high, work with pride, forever learn'.