

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to all our Nursery and Foundation parents. It has been lovely to meet many of you during your visits. Stay and play sessions have been really successful and it is great to see the children adapting quickly to their teachers and their new learning environments. We look forward to working with all our new parents and supporting your children as they start their learning journey through our school.

Ladybirds start on Monday from 8:45 a.m. and Butterflies from 9:00 a.m. Please wait at the end of the Foundation fence each morning and Natalie Duke, Sam Ball, Jenny Holding and the Foundation team will be there to receive you at your allocated time. Whilst the children are part time, collection time is 1:30 p.m. in the same place as morning drop off - as shown on your school visit. Nursery Caterpillars start at 8:30 a.m. Entrance to our nursery will be from the gate on the redway leading into the outside area. Charlotte Betchley, Liz Jones and the Nursery team will be there to welcome you.

Social distancing and Playground Access

Please remember to social distance on the playground and at waiting points when dropping off or collecting your child. When with other parents who may be friends, it is very easy to reduce distances without realising. **Please be vigilant and retain the required 2m to ensure everyone's safety.** In addition, we request that just one parent enters the playground area to drop off and collect. Please avoid bringing siblings from other local schools where you can. We are all working hard to protect our own school environments and to limit risks associated with Covid 19. Thank you.

As many of our classes are still working when others are collected, to avoid distraction and disruption to learning, please ensure younger siblings are kept away from the classroom windows. Thank you.

Symptoms of Covid 19

If your child or a family member within the household has symptoms of Covid 19, everyone in the household needs to isolate until a negative result has been received. We appreciate there is difficulty in obtaining tests at the moment and therefore the process is slower, however, Government guidance still has to be adhered to. Please find the link below from the NHS which gives further guidance on symptoms and the processes to follow.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Relationships and Behaviour

In school, we want all our children to feel safe, happy and part of a community where we all value each other. We expect good behaviour and for each individual, whether child or adult, to be respectful of one another through fostering meaningful relationships. We have been reinforcing this again at the beginning of our new term focusing on three key values that we would like to develop in our children - being Ready, Respectful and Safe.



Ready: Ready for learning, ready to listen, ready to go to lunch etc.

Respectful: Showing respect to their peers, to adults, to their environment, to themselves.

Safe: Safe in their learning environment, safe with the people around them and safe in the activities in which they are taking part including being safe online

These are all key life skills and we are sure you will want to reinforce these with your children at home.

Moving to Secondary School - Year 6 September 2021

If your child is in Year 6, it is time to apply for a secondary school place (children born between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010). Applications can be made via the MK Council website where further information can also be found. Please follow the link: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions
The Portal is now active and will close on 31st October 2020. All applications must be made before the closing date to receive a school place offer on 1 March 2021 (National offer day). Following that date, any choices will be limited.

School Census - 1st October 2020

The School Census occurs three times a year in October, January and May and the school receives funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals based upon the number of children ordering school lunches on Census day. As I am sure you are aware, our income has dropped this year, so we need to ensure we receive as much funding as possible. We would therefore be grateful if Foundation, Year One and Year Two parents, who are automatically entitled to Universal Free School Meals, order a meal on the census day which falls on **1st October 2020** (order on Parent Pay by **22nd September 2020**). Many thanks.

Macmillan 'Coffee Morning'

Regrettably, we are unable to hold our usual Macmillan Coffee morning. Charities such as this require even more support in the current climate so we invite you, if you are able to do so, to contribute £1 to collection boxes which will be available at all our exits and entrances on Friday 25th September. Thank you.

Birthday Treats

At this time, we are unable to accommodate children bringing birthday treats into school for their peers and handing these out. Unfortunately, there are just too many touch points involved. Thank you for your understanding.

Photographer

We usually welcome the photographer into school in the Autumn Term to take individual photos. Please note that this has been postponed and will now take place on Monday 11th January 2021.

Dates for Autumn Term 2020

- 21.9.20** - Foundation and Nursery children start school
 - 25.9.20** - Collection for Macmillan Cancer Care (instead of coffee morning)
 - 28.9.20** - Crickets (a.m.) Grasshoppers (p.m.) to Howe Park Woods
 - 30.9.20** - Foundation children have the option to attend full time
 - 5.10.20** - Foundation children full time
 - 9.10.20** - World Mental Health Day #Helloyellow
 - 16.10.20** - Harvest celebrations in school - further information will follow
 - w/b 19.10.20** - Parent consultations - further information will follow
 - 22.10.20** - School closes for half term (end of Thursday)

 - 2.11.20** - School Opens
 - 13.11.20** - Children in Need
 - 16.11.20** - Anti Bullying week
 - w/b 30.11.20** - Flu immunisation programme in school
- We are still looking at what is feasible for Christmas celebrations and will update as soon as we are able to do so.
- 18.12.20** - School closes for the Christmas break

Due to the current situation with Covid 19, we have had to adapt our programme of activities, trips and visits. We will keep you informed of any new dates as the term progresses. The term dates for the full school year are attached with this letter.

Have a good weekend and thank you for understanding as we work together to keep our children, families and staff safe.

Best wishes

Claire

Claire Britnell
Headteacher

Angie

Angie Bailey
Deputy Headteacher/Head of School