



Dear Parents,

It is difficult to think that we are at the end of another school year, one which has been unusual and often testing in the few months since March!

We have been delighted to welcome back around 60 children over the past 5 weeks, and to see how well they adapted to the new rules and routines expected of them. The children came back to school excited and were able to settle relatively quickly – a credit to parents and families who have supported them throughout our closure, and throughout their return – thank you!

We have tried to keep contact with all of our families at regular intervals, and hope that this was useful. We had many positive responses and kind words for the staff, and we thank you for this too.

In school, we have worked with often changing, and regularly last minute, government guidance in order to maintain a safe environment for the children who we have had in care, and for those during this wider opening. We never received the guidance before it was announced in the press and our challenge was to put it into practice quickly to ensure the smooth running and safe return to school. Again, we thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation during these times - we have been frustrated, I can only imagine you have been too!

You will find below some useful information / reminders for the next academic year. However, you will find the information about how we will return, including timings of the day and other routines, systems and expectations in a separate letter, based on the more recent government guidance for a full return to school.

We hope that you continue to stay safe over the summer, we are conscious that we are not yet 'out of the woods', and although we hope for a full, safe return in September, it will be quite different for some time to come.

Take care, and have a good break!

Mrs Dunn

School Organisation

You should now have your child's report and class allocation letter for September. In September, our school will be structured as follows:

- Class 1 – Mrs Allen - Nursery (2 sessions per day) & Reception
- Class 2 – Miss Swaile - Year 1 & Year 2
- Class 3 – Mrs Yews - Year 3 & Year 4
- Class 4 – Mrs Johnson - Year 5
- Class 5 – Mr Smith - Year 6

Support staff: Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Gillespie & Mrs Stockport will work across the school; Mrs Train will work in Class 1

ParentPay

All parents **must** set up Parentpay accounts for each child they have in school – including parents of new Nursery children. Adding every child means that we can direct our messages to specific groups, rather than the whole school at times when this is necessary.

It is not necessary to add money to the account (e.g. if children are entitled to free school meals, or bring packed lunch) but **mobile number and email addresses are essential** as this is now the platform we use for our text messaging service and any correspondence during times such as this summer's lockdown/closure period.

School Meals

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal under a government initiative.

For children in Key Stage 2 (Y3-6), the cost of a daily meal will be £2.10 (£10.50 per week) and must be paid via ParentPay.

For Nursery children and adults, the cost is £2.52.

Health & Safety / Medication

Reminder - Jewellery of any kind is not allowed and restricts the activities the children are allowed to do. Children should remove all rings, ear-rings etc. before coming to school and only wear inexpensive watches (which will be removed for PE).

All children with hair long enough to be tied back should do so. This helps to prevent the spread of head lice, and is necessary for PE and playing on the outdoor equipment.

Health Care plans will be reviewed, and you will need to complete new medicine administration forms when you return the medication/inhalers on Thursday 3rd September. Mrs Medcalf/Mrs Dunn will be able to help.

School Uniform / PE Kit / Equipment

You can find a reminder of our school uniform and PE kit below. All 'logo' clothing can be bought relatively cheaply at Little Gems, Peterlee; or from www.myclothing.com

Please ensure that all items of uniform and kit are named to reduce the amount in the lost property pile.

Uniform – whole school

Red polo shirt, preferably with the school logo

Navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan, again, preferably with the school logo

Dark grey/black trousers, skirt or shorts

Red/white or Blue/white checked dresses (Summer term)

Sensible shoes – children climb steps indoors and out, and play on outdoor equipment

PE Kit

For the first autumn half-term, children will be asked to come to school in their kit, on their PE day. Further information can be found in our 'Return to School' letter.

- **Nursery:** plimsolls/gym shoes
- **Reception:** gym shoes/trainers, dark shorts and a 'House'-coloured t-shirt
- **Year 1-Year 6:** gym shoes/trainers, dark shorts and a 'House'-coloured t-shirt plus tracksuit top/bottoms for outdoors

Coloured t-shirts without the logo are also fine. Although children *will need* House coloured tops for various events, plain white t-shirts may also be worn for PE.



Wellies

All children should bring their wellies back to school when they return. Outdoor education will be an integrated part of our learning. Children in C1 & C2 have storage in their porches, and KS2 will use the 'wellie sheds' on the yard.

2020-21 School Holidays

Holiday	Closing Date	Re-open for Teaching Purposes
Autumn 2020		Thursday 3 September 2020
Autumn half-term 2020	Friday 23 October 2020	Monday 2 November 2020
Christmas 2020	Friday 18 December 2020	Monday 4 January 2021
Spring half-term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 March 2021	Monday 12 April 2021
Summer half-term 2021	Thursday 27 May 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Tuesday 20 July 2021	
School will be closed for the following staff training days:		
1/2. Tue 1 & Wed 2 Sept 2020	3. Fri 20 Nov 2020	4. Mon 18 Jan 2021 5. Fri 28 May 2021