



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to a new and exciting school year. It has been such a delight to see the children each morning with such happy faces and cheery hellos.

First I would like to thank you for all your patience and support over the last 3 days. We are constantly reviewing our procedures to make them as smooth and as simple as possible. We have opted for a flexible start rather than a staggered start to make this easier for the many parents who have children in various year groups. As the week has progressed and children are more confident with where they are going this has worked well, especially for those who are coming a little later as there are no queues. To ensure that we comply with social distancing we urge you not to come too early.

This half-term we have much work to do settling children back into school routines, re-establishing good learning habits and ensuring that they feel safe and secure within school. The first week has been very much focussed on the latter and seeing where the children are in their learning. We hope that the children have ended their day tired but happy- the staff certainly have.

We will continue to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum as we believe that children thrive when they are happy and to focus solely on Maths and English would turn many children off education. We will be using all of our school grounds and taking learning outside as much as possible. This follows guidelines on reducing risk and supports one of our school priorities for developing healthy lifestyle habits. We would therefore be very grateful if children had a pair of (named) old shoes or wellies that remain in school for this purpose. We would also request that children have a named water bottle and a healthy snack each day.

This year we are also looking at developing our playtimes and lunchtimes to ensure that the children have a really enjoyable experience. We will be sending details of this as we progress and look forward to sharing this with you.

I would like to thank you personally for your invaluable commitment and support towards the staff and pupils of this school and also take the opportunity to thank all of the staff who at this time are not only teaching but are also serving lunches and cleaning all to keep the children as safe as possible. Without this flexibility from both yourselves and the staff we would not be able to do what we do.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Hirst