

## **Parent Information – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

Rather than send lots of messages throughout the week about different things, we are going to trial sending whole school important information every Friday – please do feel free to let us know how you feel this works!

### **Staggered Start and Finish Times**

Thank you everyone for your patience with us while we all get used to the new way of working. It is so lovely to see you all again (and the new faces). Every day the system is working better. It will take us all a while to get used to the 'new normal' and we are very grateful for your help with this. Here are some key reminders for us all:

- Please arrive at school at the correct time for your drop-off/collection and if you are early please do not approach the gate too soon as this leads to crowding and means that parents with earlier times cannot get through
- Please keep to the left of paths where possible
- Please observe the one way system on the steps between the lower and upper playgrounds
- Please only one adult per family on the school site
- Please do your best to keep your distance from other families

Thank you to parents who have given us feedback on how things have been this week. We will see how things go and review the systems regularly. Your ideas will certainly be taken into consideration as we improve our plans further. Hopefully, everything should be simpler once the road works are over and in the meantime we will all try our best and continue to be kind to each other while we adjust.

### **Healthy Schools Award**

We have noticed that since the lock down, a lot more children are bringing drinks other than water to school to have with their lunch. Particularly at this time, we feel that it is important to make sure that everyone is as healthy as possible and as little is brought into school as we can manage. For these reasons, we are going to encourage the use of water bottles at lunchtime. This will mean that you only have to send in one drink and won't have to send another with any packed lunch. We can assure you that bottles are refilled throughout the day.

I'm sure you'll agree that this makes sense, especially as research shows that water is vital for our brains as studies have found it improves our concentration and cognition, helps balance our moods and emotions, maintains memory function and increases blood flow and oxygen to our brains.

The school is working towards renewing its Healthy Schools Award and this is going to be one of our key interventions. We have already taken base line information and hope to see an improvement in the number of children bringing water to school. We would like to thank you very much indeed for your help with this and we'll be sharing the results with you in a few weeks time.

### **Water Bottles**

More information about water bottles! As I have shared before, parents have indicated that they would like to have water bottles returned home daily and this is now the system in school. We would be very grateful if you could ensure that they are washed daily and brought back full each day. Water bottles are now on desks so children have access to them all day and for this reason it is really important that they have pop-up lids so that if they fall over, they do not ruin your children's books.

### **Forgotten items!**

Please do your best to ensure that your children bring everything they need when they arrive. Because of the bubble system, we cannot pass on anything such as lunch boxes or PE kits which are

brought in late. Lunch boxes are checked first thing in the morning, and we will order a school lunch for anyone who has forgotten theirs. We will make sure that children are able to participate in PE if they do not have their kit

### **Clubs**

A parentmail was sent out about clubs earlier today. The message contained the links for parents to go online to sign up and pay – please note these clubs are run by progressive sports and payment is made direct to them. Spaces are limited to 15 in each club and are on a first come basis. The clubs available starting from next week and running until Christmas are:

Monday: Upper KS2 (Year 5 & 6) Football

Tuesday: Lower KS2 (Year 3 & 4) Football

Wednesday: KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Football

Thursday: Lower KS2 (Years 3 & 4) Multi-Sports

Friday: KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Multi-Sports