



St Lawrence's RC Primary School
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11th September 2020

Dear parents and carers,

On behalf of the staff and Governors I would like to warmly welcome you and your children back to school. It has been brilliant to see the children back and the school at full capacity after such a long time. The children have settled straight back in and I must highly praise the standard of their behaviour across the school which all staff have commented on.

CURRICULUM:

It goes without saying that children have lost some ground in their educational journey due to the enforced lockdown. School will take a gradual and pragmatic approach to this. Already, we have been gently assessing where the children are with their reading before putting together any plans for further support for those who need it most. We have been promised some Government funding to do this but as of yet, it has not appeared in our accounts. The staff, led by Mrs Maxwell, have produced a fabulous 'Recovery Curriculum' which is on our website. This outlines what we will be doing this term. A focus will be on:

- regular reading of quality texts
- regular practise of key and basic Maths skills
- art and music in the afternoons
- more regular outdoor activity
- increased lessons on hygiene and reminders of how the children can keep themselves and others safe

Unfortunately, we are not yet able to book any out of school trips or activities. We hope this will change soon.

START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Can I thank all parents and children for the sensible approach taken to the start and end of the school day. The first day was a little tricky as people got used to new arrangements but this has got much better as the week has gone on.

The key is to stick to the times allocated, don't bring the children too early and don't be late in bringing them and collecting them. If this happens, we will avoid crowding and be much more able to maintain social distancing both between parents and other groups.

Unfortunately, we are not able to have parents on site at the moment. This is not how we like to operate and we will be reviewing this constantly.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school and assess them each day, getting them back to school when they are well enough as soon as possible. If they have a CoVid-19 symptom then it is best to inform school and ring 111 for advice. It may well be that you are asked to go for a test. If

If this is the case, please keep school informed throughout and let us know the outcome of the test straight away.

BREAKFAST CLUB

I am delighted to report that Breakfast Club is back on Monday. The club will be different as children will have to remain in their seats within their bubbles before school. I have had to make staffing additions to do this which is why it has taken until Week 2. You must return the form sent out on Wednesday to let us know your child is coming.

Please do not drop the children any earlier than 8.00am and they must not be any later than 8.30am. I believe the return of Breakfast Club will help reduce congestion at the start of the day.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

I am hoping After School clubs will begin again on Monday 21 September. Again, they will be slightly different as each club can contain only one class. We will therefore rota the clubs so each child gets a go at each applicable club at some point in the year. In many ways it may be a better and fairer system. I will communicate details of this early next week.

SCHOOL MEALS

Currently, we have to eat lunch in classrooms or outside if the weather permits. Due to Health and Safety rules we are unable to offer hot meals as they can not be taken into classrooms. This is not an ideal situation. We hope that we can change this soon and offer at least some hot meals. To start with, this may be on a rota on a class by class basis. Again, I will communicate details of this shortly.

EQUIPMENT

We are avoiding the use of cloak room as it is a communal area. Therefore, please ensure that the children come with a small bag containing their lunch and not a large back pack. The bag they bring to school should be able to fit easily under their seat. On PE days (Monday for Early Years and Key Stage 1, Thursday for Key Stage 2) the children can come to school dressed in their kit and can keep it on all day.

Many thanks once again for your support this week. Your children have done us all proud!

Yours Faithfully

Mr P A Brown

Head Teacher