



## MESSAGE FROM MRS LAVELLE

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well. As we approach the weekend at the end of our fourth week back at school I would like to share some school news, reminders and information with you.

Firstly, a big well done to all of our children for the amazing way they have settled back into school life. They are working hard, behaving well, enjoying interacting with friends and class mates, adapting quickly to any new routines and clearly enjoying their time in school.

Many thanks to parents/carers also for your support with our new routines and procedures and helping your children to settle back in so well, particularly with the added pressures we are all now facing following the recent further restrictions. There are one or two areas I think we can work together to improve further which I will mention later in the newsletter. It is also lovely to see so much less traffic around the school main entrances - many thanks to everyone for parking further away from school or scooting, cycling and walking to school.

Our weekly virtual assemblies are going well and children are enjoying these. These are video Assemblies which children are watching in their classes on our large interactive boards. Every Monday, we have a Rights Respecting Schools Assembly, on Wednesdays a Class Teacher prepares an Assembly based on a theme of their choice (these have included 'Resilience and Determination')

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and 'Friendship' so far) and on Fridays, we have our Golden Assembly where we announce Star Awards, Golden Table Awards and Doodle Maths Prize Winners. We will share these with you next week on Class Dojo so you can see what they involve.

Well done to Year 5 who took part in cycling proficiency training earlier in September. The instructors were very impressed by the sensible behaviour of these groups and how well they followed instructions.

School photographs went well this week, although took even more careful organisation than usual! Everything went smoothly and the photos look like they will be lovely - I saw lots of happy smiling faces in these as I went through the hall! These should be available soon for you to view.

We now have a brand new boiler and heating system which has been switched on for the first time today - just in time for the cold weather!

As you know, we said goodbye to our Caretaker, Mr Green, yesterday and wish him all the best in his new role. We have a temporary caretaker, Mr Prest, starting today, who you will see at the main gates at the end of the school day. I will be at the main gates every morning for the time being.

Please see below for some important reminders and further information.

Have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Lavelle

## BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SAFETY

The main area we would like to improve further is to minimise the number of people on our yards and around the entrances before and after the school day. The following actions will help us to address this:

- In the morning, your child's class teacher will take the majority of children inside once they arrive at their drop off area so that parents/carers can leave as soon as they have handed their child over to the teacher. This also means that in bad weather we can get children

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inside as soon as possible and parents/carers don't get too cold and wet! A second staff member will stay at the drop off area for 5 minutes after the drop off time and will bring in any other children. If your child arrives later than this, bring them to the path near the school office and Mrs Tyrrell will see them into school. Wherever possible, however, ensure that your child arrives at school on time.

- If waiting at any point, parents/carers must now not gather in groups to chat as this contravenes the current local guidelines. I will have to speak to groups of parents/carers from Monday if I see this happening, which I would rather not do. Please bear in mind that we all need to do our bit to keep each other as safe as possible and to keep our school open.

## VISITS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

From Monday, please observe the new 'Wait' sign outside the school office. If you are bringing a child into school after the usual time, wait at the sign and a staff member will bring the child in. If waiting, you must also observe the 2m social distancing signs. Any other visit/message/transaction that could be done by telephone call or email must be done in this way to avoid unsafe congestion in this small reception area. Many thanks for your support with this; we appreciate that this can cause inconvenience but our main aim is to keep everyone safe. As usual we will aim to help in any way we can so please continue to contact school by telephone, email or Class Dojo as often as you need.

## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS AWARD

As you may be aware, we currently hold the Bronze Rights Respecting School Award and are working towards the Silver Award. This means that we are working towards being a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, ensuring that our school is a happy, kind, caring and respectful environment where children can achieve success in all aspects of school life. The Children's Rights (or Articles) we have covered so far this term are:

### **Article 3 - Best interests of the child**

The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

### **Article 12 - Respect for the views of the child**

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

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## REMOTE LEARNING PLANS

We have almost finalised plans for Remote Learning to be used in the event of a class/bubble having to self-isolate at home or in a full lock down situation. This is likely to be in the form of daily lesson videos prepared by the teacher and shared using Class Dojo and/or email. There will also be a system for sending back completed work and for the teacher to give feedback. We will share a full overview of the plans with you next week. Teachers will be trialling the use of these systems for some homework tasks during the coming weeks so that we should all feel confident in their use should we need to switch to Remote Learning at any point.

With this in mind, if you haven't already signed up to Class Dojo and need support with this, please contact the School Office and we can help answer any questions or give out further joining instructions.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**12<sup>th</sup> October: Harvest Festival Week** We will send a letter out nearer the time asking for donations and Nursery, Reception and Years 1 to 3 will share some Harvest songs and activities with parents via Class Dojo.

**16<sup>th</sup> October: Show Racism the Red Card day.** Children may come to school wearing red and some of our activities today will be linked to this theme.

**23<sup>rd</sup> October: End of Half Term** and Mr Walsh's Class Assembly will be shared with the parents of children in this class and our classes in school.

**2<sup>nd</sup> November: Back to School**

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