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Tuesday, 31 August 2021

Dear Parents,

### Thursday Opening

I hope that you have all had a restful summer and managed to enjoy some of the sunny weather when it was around! We look forward to opening our doors to welcome you all back on Thursday to begin the new academic year.

There have been updates to our risk assessment in light of all of the changes to the government restrictions. Our risk assessment will be available on our school website very soon. We have removed the staggered opening times and are returning to the usual school times of children having to be present in school at 8:50am, arriving no earlier than 8:40am. Collection for all children will be at 3:20pm. We will continue to maintain the strict hand hygiene rules and cleaning regimes that have been in place throughout as well as keeping the rooms in school well ventilated. We will be reintroducing whole school assemblies in the hall as well as returning to eating lunches there too. Whilst the playground zones have gone so that the children have a larger area, we have decided to keep some staggered playtimes for the juniors to allow them more room to play.

A reminder that children can continue coming to school in their PE kits on the days that they have PE. PE hoodies can be purchased from the PTA if you wish.

In terms of attendance in school, all children are expected to attend school when they are well. Children who are close contacts of positive cases no longer have to isolate and are expected to attend school as usual. If a child tests positive for Covid that child would be expected to remain at home for the 10 full day isolation period. Parents of the positive case will be contacted by the NHS test and trace team to identify who the close contacts are, schools no longer have responsibility for this. Any close contact is advised to get a PCR test and as long as they are not showing symptoms, they do not have to isolate whilst waiting for the result and can still come to school. Any child or member of staff **with** symptoms, **however mild**, will be sent home and asked to take a PCR test, in this case you would have to isolate until a negative result is received. We have an Outbreak Management Plan which would be implemented if cases in close proximity increase, this will also be available soon on the school website.

Due to Covid, many people last year had to rearrange holidays that sometimes fell during term time. Whilst these were not authorised, an understanding approach was taken. It is now expected that your child attends school all the time and the usual rules apply around absence. I will be working very closely with our Education Welfare Officer, Victoria Franklin, to monitor attendance over the year.



You may have noticed if you have walked down the pathway that we have had a fair bit of work completed over the Summer. We have been working on a project with South Gloucestershire to improve our Reception class area – and it looks FANTASTIC! Not only have we extended the inside area by adding a conservatory but we have improved the outdoor learning area too – the treehouse looks amazing as does the walk in sandpit. I can't wait to see the children's faces and watch them playing in it. I am sure that we will make sure that every class gets the opportunity to come and have a little play in the area over the first few weeks back. I will make sure that the next bulletin has some photos, but please do stop by and take a look over the gates.

As part of our work we have rearranged some of the classes. Year 2 and Year 3 have swapped classrooms and Year 6 will now be housed in the main building. Year 4 and Year 5 will be in the Elliott classrooms. (See below)



Enjoy the last day of the summer holiday and see you all on Thursday!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Robson'.

Kirsty Robson

