

*"We will work in partnership with you to continue to build the unique foundations for your child's learning"*

## Newsletter March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you safe and ready to start emerging from the 'lockdown'. This newsletter is for all children, so some of the information may not be relevant to you, but this seemed to be the easiest way for us to let you know what is going on and how we will be preparing the school for March.

We will need to continue with the same timings as before Christmas;

**Mornings 9-11.15/30**

**Afternoons 12.30 - 2.45/3pm and**

**Fulltime 9-2.45/3pm.**

We are still maintaining all the cleaning and washing that is necessary between each session in order that we are all able to stay safe.

Gentle reminder about some of the ways that we will work to stay safe and how you can help us with this;

**Masks:** We would ask that all adults wear a mask when they are on site, unless they are exempt.

**Adults on site:** We would like to limit the number of adults on site so only one person at a time to bring or collect the children, if it is possible please try to limit the number of different adults that come and collect the children.

**Social Distancing** Please remember that it is still important that you maintain SOCIAL DISTANCING when waiting to bring your child in, and to collect them.

**Settling new children** If you are new to the school, it is still important that we work together to settle your child. If you come in the classroom, please remember to wash your hands and to wear a mask.

**Crossing the white lines** White lines have been painted across the front of each classroom. Once your child is settled please do not cross the line. This will help us to all stay safe. We have worked very hard over the last year to keep everyone safe. We are very proud that we have only had one positive case of Covid-19 in our school community.

### Tapestry

This year we decided that we wanted to have more of an opportunity to show you what your children have been up to in school. We are very conscious of the fact that the ways we have always have been able to tell you about what your child has been up to have been very disrupted due to Covid and lock downs. We have invested in a system called 'Tapestry', this is an online journal which helps us to record the children's learning. We are able to post pictures and videos of what the children are doing, which you are then able to view and comment on. You are given log in details and you are only able to see your child's entries. You will be asked to sign a form that you agree to this and you will have different options about what can be posted. We hope that this will be a way to increase the communication between us, as you can also post picture about what has happened at home.

## Diary dates

**World Book Day** - so that as many children as possible are able to participate in our celebrations we are going to hold it this year on the 12<sup>th</sup> March. On that day it would be great if your child could dress up as a story character. If you are still at home, then you could join in; read the stories and send us some pictures.

**Red Nose Day** - As a school we always fund raise for comic or sports relief. This year will be slightly different but we would like you to join in at school or at home and send us your photos. The theme this year is to wear something that is your '**brightest colours and boldest patterns**'.

**15<sup>th</sup> March -26<sup>th</sup> March** we have the 'Living Eggs' in school. We have 10 eggs delivered to us in an incubator and we watch as the eggs hatch into chicks. We will post daily updates on the website so that you can see what happens each day.

After the Easter holiday when all of our children return or start we are planning on having 'caterpillars which will turn into butterflies' and in July a carnival when we can wave all our 'big children' off to their new schools.

**It is important to note that we will not be able to have any parents at any of the events that we are planning. We will be using our new communication system 'Tapestry' to share pictures and videos of these events.**

## Home learning after 8<sup>th</sup> March

We are going to change the way we support home learning. We have enjoyed planning and making the pack, and the feedback that you have given us is that you have enjoyed doing the activities. This has taken a tremendous amount of Sophia and Bonnies time in planning and then creating the packs and making sure that the children in school are having a similar experience. (They have done this whilst continuing to teach in class each day. ☺). For the children who have not yet started with us due to the lockdown or the youngest children who are not yet returning to us, we are going to make activity packs that will have 3 or 4 books in it, ideas for activities that you can do with your child that will be linked to the books in the pack. The books in the packs will have links; they maybe from the same author, or be about a subject - dinosaurs or pirates. They may just be a good book for bedtime reading. The packs will be available to borrow from 8<sup>th</sup> March and we are going to put in Covid safeguarding measure so that a pack cannot be borrowed by another family until it has been quarantined for 72 hours and then cleaned. We will also include a feedback form so that you can tell us if it was any good, or what we could add to it.

As with all our home learning if you feel unsure about coming to collect it then we are happy to drop the resources off to you. It would be a lovely transition back to school if you came to collect it though with your child, then we could start to build the friendships that will help them to settle back in.

*Finally, a very big thank you.*

***I am lucky to be the head of a nursery school that has the best staff working for it – in the world. In the last year they have worked through every lockdown, and we have had children from other settings placed with us because we were open. They have kept the children and their families' safe. The school has only had one positive case during the whole of the pandemic, that is amazing. They are just the best and I am proud to be their leader.***

*Thank you to all of them Gill*