

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

PARENTS NEWSLETTER

September 2020

Dear Parents old and new;

Welcome to the nursery that is very much the same, but in other ways very different. We will continue to hold your child at the heart of all that we do, however there are new important considerations that we also have to think about. We are sad that we have had to take the decision that unless your child is settling you will not be able to come into the school. If you are settling your child, then please wear a mask when you are inside and maintain social distancing.

We have also had to introduce staggered start and finish times. I am sorry if this causes problems with other school drop offs and pick-ups.

We are very conscious that parents are trying to get back to work or working from home, we have put as many dates on the website or on the holiday lists as we know. However; there are some dates that we have not yet been able to confirm. We will let you know as soon as we can.

We are not at present sending any books home, however we hope to start, rhyme and song sheets which we will send home and will link with the work the children are doing. If your child shows any **COVID** symptoms, (*new persistent cough; high temperature; loss of taste or smell*), or is unwell for any reason, please keep them at home. Please phone or email the office to let us know the reason for their absence.

Routines and changes

We put a number of strategies in place in June to keep everyone in the school community safe. These were very successful and we will continue with them this term.

The children will wash their hands when they arrive and before they go home. They will wash their hands hourly and before they eat.

The children adapted to all of the changes really well, and stepped along a number line as they wait for a sink to be free.

Unfortunately, due to the extra cleaning we have had to implement and to minimise cross over between the morning and afternoon sessions. We are not at the moment offering the one full day that we have been giving the children in the last few years. We will re-start it as soon as we feel safe to do so.

Drop off for morning session	
8.50	Moonlight Room
9.00	Star Room
9.10	Space Room
End of morning session	
11.10	Moonlight Room
11.20	Star Room
11.30	Space Room
Drop off for afternoon session	
12.30	Moonlight Room
12.40	Star Room
12.50	Space Room
Pick up at the end of the day	
2.50	Moonlight Room
3.00	Star Room
3.10	Space Room

If your circumstances have changed and you might now be entitled to free school meals, then please contact us. We are happy to try and support you with any application. If you are struggling to cope, then please contact us. We can link you to the right places for support. Gill can also request that you receive a food box

During the lock down events in the USA impacted through the pandemic as the demonstrations for 'Black Lives Matter' showed. I am including here my newsletter response so you know the views of the school.

Black Lives matter

We are very lucky in Abbey Wood to live in a diverse community which this school reflects. This year we had families who spoke 23 different languages. It has always been our aim to equip all children to be able to go out into the world as confident learners able to hold their heads up. We try and support families to see themselves in the school community. The death of George Floyd and the resulting demonstrations have shown what a long way we still have to travel on this journey. We have started to look at our curriculum and the resources that we have in school so that we can better reflect and support the community that we are a part of.

During this time, I was sent a quote which has made me reflect.

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate the neutrality." Desmond Tutu

Please share with us anything that you feel the school could be doing differently, or better.

**Please look after yourselves and your family,
Stay safe; Gill and all the staff**