



# Newsletter – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021

**On this day - 1990:** Ireland elects Mary Robinson as its first female president.

**Birthdays - 1966:** Gordon Ramsay, chef and TV personality, born in Johnstone, Scotland.

Dear parents, carers and families,

I hope you all had a good first week to the new half term. The children returned positively and our staff team worked very hard to ensure each class had a successful week in school.

There are several things to make you aware of this week, so I will try to use this space wisely. Firstly, a reminder of our start-of day timings, which are as follows: **8.40am - 8.50am:** Children to arrive in school and enter through the usual classroom entrances. **8.50am - 9.00am:** Children to enter via the main school entrance and sign in there. This produces an 'L' (late) mark on registers. **After 9.00am:** Children to enter via the main entrance and sign in there. This produces a 'U' (late after registers close) on our registers. Staff outside will be directing pupils through the main entrance after 8.50am. This is part of our efforts to ensure our attendance and punctuality figures are accurate. Please do aim for an 8.40am start. Just ten minutes later each day will make a total of over 30 hours of classroom time lost over the school year. Thank you for your support.

Last week you will have seen my later regarding dates for the start of the spring term. The headline is that children will return to school on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022. This is because our school will observe a bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January, with a PD day for staff on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Full details are in the letter, a copy of which I have added to our website.

This week you will see details coming out to sign up for our **virtual parents' evenings**, which will take place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November (3.30pm-6.30pm) and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November (3.30pm-5.30pm). Please look out for communication on Parent Mail and sign-up for your appointment/s.

We continue to ensure classrooms are well ventilated in school as part of our Covid-19 measures. Please arrange for your child to be dressed appropriately, including vests, cardigans and jumpers as necessary. As the temperatures become cooler, we will do our best to balance comfort and safety, but classes may be cooler than usual, at times.

Finally, please support us by closing the single, wooden pedestrian gate at the top of the drive, if you visit school during the day. This is an essential part of our safety measures. Nursery parents have been contacted, too.

With best wishes for the week ahead,  
Richard Martin.

## DIARY DATES

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November:** BMX sessions – Years 5 and 6.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November:** Virtual Parents Evening #1

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November:** Virtual Parents Evening #2

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** Flu Nasal Spray – NHS.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Royal Institute of Science events.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Dinner.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Last day of term & dress-down day.

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022:** Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday (observed).

**Weds 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022:** Professional Development day for staff.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022:** All children return to school.

## Attendance data...

1 <sup>st</sup>	Hazel Class	100%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oak Class	97.8%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Beech Class	96.6%
4 <sup>th</sup>	Elder Class	96.3%
5 <sup>th</sup>	Elm Class	95%
6 <sup>th</sup>	Pine Class	94.4%
7 <sup>th</sup>	Hawthorn Class	94%

## Punctuality data...

1 <sup>st</sup>	Hawthorn Class	100%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Elder Class	98.7%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Oak Class	97.8%
4 <sup>th</sup>	Hazel Class	94.8%
5 <sup>th</sup>	Pine Class	94.3%
6 <sup>th</sup>	Elm Class	94%
7 <sup>th</sup>	Beech Class	92.3%

