



20th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a unique school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank children, parents and school staff for all of their hard work and support. There is no denying it has been a hugely challenging year, but the strength, kindness and support of our whole school community has shone through and we have all managed to achieve great things. I always count myself very fortunate to be headteacher at such an amazing school and this has never been truer than it is this year.

Many of you may have noticed that Mrs. Gallois, Mrs. Hailstone and Miss. Turner are not in school presently. Please rest assured, these staff members are well but are currently isolating having been contacted by NHS Track and Trace. It is frustrating for them not to be able to join their classes for the final few days of term, but it is absolutely the right thing to do and we are extremely grateful to them. To date, I am pleased to report that no staff members at Rackham have contracted Covid. This is due chiefly to their dedication and vigilance both in and out of school and has played a huge part in keeping our bubble closure numbers so exceptionally low.

We are extremely grateful to all the parents who took time to complete the parent questionnaire and to those who also added comments. Once again the results are really impressive with 100% of parents agreeing that their child is taught well at this school. Although it may not be possible to please everybody all the time, it is heartening to read just how appreciative our parent community have been in their comments about the school, I will be sharing these comments with staff in my end of year bulletin and know that they will be thrilled to read the praise and thanks afforded to us all. May I politely ask that the parent who used the anonymous survey to express concerns about the school communicate their views with us directly so that we can address them appropriately.

We are sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 children but we know how fortunate their new schools are to have such wonderful children about to join them. Our Year 6 children have had a fantastic residential trip this week and the photographs shared on Twitter have been a delight to view.

Many of you may remember that I was due to complete a tandem skydive last July to raise money for our school, but Covid restrictions meant it was necessary for me to postpone. The children are thrilled to learn that this has been rescheduled and I am due to jump on **Saturday 11th September 2021**. Given that FWR have been unable to run fundraising activities this year, including our Funday Sunday for the second time, any donation you can make towards the school would be greatly appreciated. You can access the Justgiving page [HERE](#).

Parent Consultation:

Many thanks to our parents for completing the recent consultation in preparation for September. We have shared some of the key results with you below:

Children to wear PE kits on PE days instead of changing into their PE kits in school.



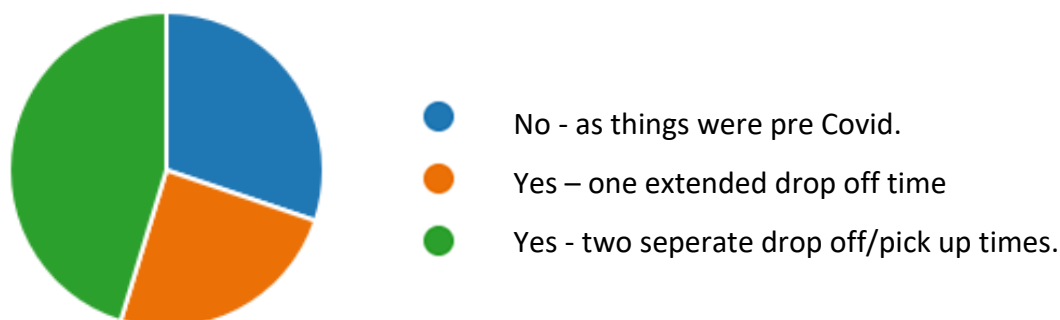
We have decided that PE kits in school on PE and Games days is the best option and we will write to you before the start of term to let you know which days your child has PE and Games.

Adults to wear a face mask while on the school site. (Please note, this cannot be enforced, but we would like to understand how parents feel about it.)



Mask wearing will be optional on the school site from September but we ask all parents to be polite and respectful to those who choose to wear them in an effort to protect the clinically vulnerable members of our community.

Staggered drop/off pick up times



As you will all be aware, there is only one narrow access to our school premises and with close to 300 pupils, the school gate can become very busy and crowded when all parents arrive and leave at exactly the same time. The consultation has shown that just under $\frac{3}{4}$ of parents would like staggered drop off/pick up times next term. Therefore, in September, there will be two registration times and children have a 15 minute allocated slot to arrive at school before registration closes.

Timings are:

First drop off

Children with surnames starting between A and L:

Arrive between 8.30am and 8.45am, ready for 8.45am registration. School finishes at 3pm.

Second drop off

Children with surnames starting between M and Z:

Arrive between 8.45am and 9am, ready for 9am registration. School finishes at 3.15pm.

Children brought or collected by childminders should use the 8.45am – 3.15pm slot everyday.

Finally I would like again to thank our children. They have adapted so well to the challenges this year has provided, and we should all be proud of their achievements. In our Collective Worship session today, we enjoyed a celebratory dance together and it was a real moment of joy.

We will write to you again the week before the children return for the new academic year. I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful summer break and look forward to welcoming you all back to school on 6th September 2021.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mrs B Harrison
Headteacher

