



GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

In school, we are continually following government guidance and adapt our risk assessments accordingly. Risk assessments are on our website. The new guidance this week about gatherings of only 6 people does not affect school and therefore we do not need to change our practice.

The key messages have not changed. I urge you all to follow guidance. We are trying very hard as a school to keep all our children and families safe, but we have no control over actions outside of school. It is important that as a school community that we all keep each other safe.

There is detailed guidance on the NHS website about the virus and symptoms. Anyone who develops symptoms of coronavirus must inform school, self-isolate and access testing by calling 119 or visiting nhs.uk

I know that it is difficult to decide at the moment whether your child has a common cold or coronavirus. If your child has a cold and is well enough to attend school, then they should. If they are displaying any of the three main symptoms – a high temperature, a new persistent cough or loss of taste and smell then they (along with the household) should follow the guidance above. This useful table below may help you to compare the differences between a common cold, coronavirus and the flu.

SYMPTOMS	CORONAVIRUS	COLD	FLU
FEVER	COMMON	RARE	COMMON
FATIGUE	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES	COMMON
COUGH	COMMON (USUALLY DRY)	MILD	COMMON (USUALLY DRY)
SNEEZING	NO	COMMON	NO
ACHES AND PAINS	SOMETIMES	COMMON	COMMON
RUNNY OR STUFFY NOSE	RARE	COMMON	SOMETIMES
SORE THROAT	SOMETIMES	COMMON	SOMETIMES
DIARRHOEA	RARE	NO	SOMETIMES (FOR CHILDREN)
HEADACHES	SOMETIMES	RARE	COMMON
SHORTNESS OF BREATH	SOMETIMES	NO	NO

If there is a positive case of Coronavirus in school, then we have to contact Public Health England who ultimately make the decision as to what we do as a school. This is likely to mean that a class/bubble will close and pupils/staff in this bubble will be asked to isolate. If this happens then I will inform you. Unfortunately, this is the new 'normal' and we are likely to be faced with this disruption until there is a vaccine in place. Obviously, as a school we don't know what might happen from day to day. The Prime Minister has stated that schools will only close again as a last resort and primary schools will close after secondary schools. Therefore, the likelihood is that we will continue to remain open. We have everything in place not only to best protect all staff and families each day, but we are also prepared if there is a positive case in the school community. Remember to follow guidance to keep everyone safe.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

We are continuing to offer school packed lunches for the time being. We are looking at how we can get a hot meals service up and running but it is complicated. Dolce, our new school meals provider, have written a newsletter with updates and this will be emailed out to you.

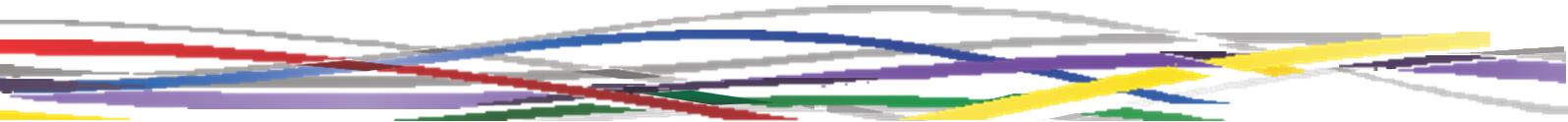
In the original timetable, we gave children 15 minutes to eat and 15 minutes play at lunchtime. The reasoning behind this is to isolate groups on the yard, co-ordinate staff timetables and also provide time for mid-day cleaning of the classrooms. We realised pretty quickly that this was too short of a period for the children to eat, so some classes have extended this time and we are encouraging those who have not finished their lunch to take it outside to the benches to finish it. By doing this it allows the cleaners time in the rooms. From Monday, we have managed to move timetables slightly to extend each class' time to eat. We knew there would be 'creases to iron out' and it is just taking time to get it right.

Note: If you send yoghurts in packed lunches then please send a spoon. We don't have any in school.



PICK UP/DROP OFF

Thank you for listening to my email this week. The yards are much better. Just a reminder that you need to be on time for your allocated slot and not early. Also only ONE adult to pick up/drop off each child. On the reception yard at drop off, if Mrs Walker/Mrs Hinde's parents line up the ramp and Miss Brown's parents when they arrive stay on the reception yard by the large canopy.



EMAIL

I had my email address cloned this week and someone sent a 'shared point- project proposal' document to schools and businesses in the area. This was not a legitimate email and if anyone has received it, then the advice is not to open it and to delete it. Our IT team are dealing with it. Thanks

AFTER SCHOOL CATCH UP SESSIONS

Thank you for answering the survey this week about after school catch-up sessions. As I explained these will start next week (week beginning 14th September). The sessions are to support gaps in learning due to the school closure and challenge. They are for all pupils and the learning will be tailored to the individual children based on where your child is now with their learning. Teachers will not be going over work set in lockdown but supporting them with their learning now. These sessions are in addition to all the work we have been doing in the classroom. Your child will be taught by their class teacher in a group of no more than 10 children within their class. It will take place the same day each week and involve the same children. You will receive confirmation today or over the weekend of your child's day and timings.

We believe that this is the most consistent and effective way of ensuring all children have the basic skills that they may have otherwise missed when school has been closed and allowing them to be able to access their new year group's curriculum. The sessions are not for the ASD Base or Thrive as these children have significant support with smaller staff/children ratios on a daily basis. They are also not available for the current reception children at the moment.

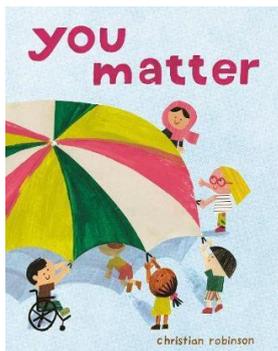
I know that it will take some time to get used to and may be complicated regarding pick up of siblings, so I'd like to thank you for your support with this new initiative.

BAGS

As I explained in my email this week, there are to be no bags in school. This is due to the lack of space in the classrooms as we are not able to use the cloakrooms at the moment. Everything has to be next to each child in the classroom – water bottle, coat, reading diary and their pencil cases which we have provided. I know that this is difficult, particularly when it is raining but unfortunately this is the situation we have at the moment.

BIKES

It is great to see children bring bikes into school. However, there are few bike locks. We will obviously monitor these at playtimes but we cannot accept responsibility for any damage. We also have to stress the importance of wearing helmets when riding bikes. I know that the children don't like wearing them but they are for their safety. I will also remind the children to make sure that bikes/scooters are socially distanced on the racks!



RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES

YOU MATTER BY CHRISTIAN ROBINSON

This sensitive and impactful picture book from award-winning author-illustrator Christian Robinson is all about seeing the world from different points of view, and the perfect entry point for parents to help teach their little people about empathy and community.

The small stuff too small to see. Those who swim with the tide and those who don't.

The first to go and the last. You matter.

Many different perspectives around the world are explored - from a pair of bird-watchers to the pigeons they're feeding, from the hugest dinosaur to the tiniest fly. Young readers will be drawn into the luminous illustrations inviting them to engage with the world in a new way and see how everyone is connected and that everyone matters.

AUTUMN TERM DATES 2020

Week beginning Monday 19th October Parents' telephone meetings (by appointment)

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th November - HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 2nd November Children back in school

Friday 11th December

Autumn Term Reports (sent out to parents).

Monday 21st December to Monday 4th January – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 4th January 2021

TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Children back in school

TWITTER STARS

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1_UCPS or @TStarKS2_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed.

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

These classes have the highest attendance this week. Well done everyone!

Whole school attendance – 92.7%

EYFS/KS1 – 1RAW/KH with 97.2%

KS2 – 6JM with 97.8%

Mr Gary Wright

Headteacher