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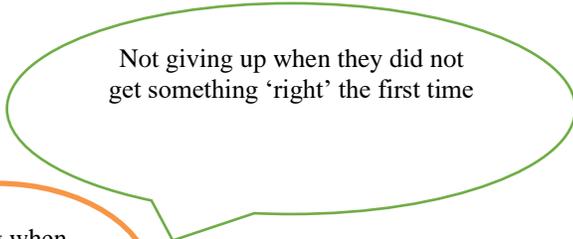
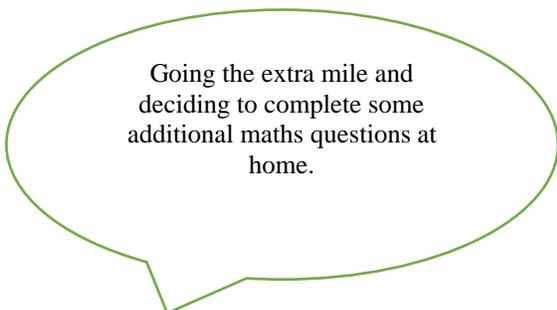
Headteacher Mrs Julia Humphrey

11th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Our second week back in school has flown by as quickly as the first and it has been lovely to see the continued smiles from the children as they arrive to school and during each day.

Given the circumstances, we still managed to hold our first celebration assembly last week (outside no less) and I was encouraged throughout as I listened to the staff speaking about the positive learning behaviours children were using. Children were praised for



Thank you for a successful return to school over the past two weeks. We have seen on average 97% attendance. Thank you for trusting the school to keep your children safe.

We are aware that with the increasing number of children who will become ill over the coming months, mostly with colds, and the testing issues, you will have questions about sending them to school. If your child is exhibiting covid-19 symptoms: a high temperature, a new and continuous cough or a change to their sense of smell and taste, please do not send them to school but attempt to get tested. For the normal seasonal snivels, we are happy for them to be at school though acknowledge that you are best placed to know if they are able to manage a day in school.

When calling in or emailing Mrs Green about an absence, please be specific, especially noting if you feel there are covid-19 symptoms as this will help us to record absences in the system and share accurate data with the LA and DfE. Each day I am asked to complete a form for the DfE which asks about absences due to covid-19.

Thank you

Government's hands, face, space campaign –

In case you have not seen these posters, the government have begun to share this across all sectors.



Update over the COVID-19 Risk Assessment – following our weekly review

Following our weekly review of the school risk assessment and procedures, we have decided that from Monday 21st, we shall move towards aligning the school with the same drop off and collection times. This should assist those who have children across different year groups, including EYFS and make it feel safer for those who have very sensibly been waiting along the roadside for their turn. Our timings for all will be

Drop off 8.45 and Collection 3pm

Which are also in line with the original school day we had in operation and will also help to ease us towards managing punctuality better and getting the children engaged with their learning at the same time.

To ensure that this works, please can we ask you to continue to respect the latest government advice, by

- being respectful of space and the numbers on the playground
- aim to drop and leave without loitering on the playground as this will allow the children to be seen by staff and at the end of the day, the staff to see which parents are waiting to collect.

Thank you for not using the play equipment this week as this has made a big difference to the management of cleaning items touched by children.

Contingency plans

In the background, we are continuing to discuss and develop the plans we are asked to draw up around contingency – in the event of a school bubble, local or national lockdown.

In terms of home learning / remote learning, we are minded to continue to use Class Dojo as a tool to help communication between teachers and families. It is wonderful to know that 96% of you have signed up to the use of Class Dojo. We appreciate that some of you may not feel you have access to the right technology to engage in this way but if this is not the case, please can we urge you to get onto Dojo as soon as possible. If you have any issues with this, please speak with Mrs Howard.

We shall also use the school website to post information, however the functionality of this platform only allows one way communication, unlike Class Dojo. Once our contingency plans are formed, we shall share them with you all.

School Improvement and Development Plans

In case you missed this last week, we have set the first two dates for you to be involved remotely with your child's learning

- Phonics for EYFS and KS1 – Thursday 1st October
- Maths Café – Tuesday 13th October

People involved in the life of our school this week

This week we have had

Ms Avenal our SENCo in school for a day. She met with two of the class teachers to build a profile of individual and class need.

Mr Brewster from the Teaching School – shared some 'back to basics' tools and approaches for teaching with all the class during the weekly staff meeting. He also spent an afternoon with Mr Dekker so that they could look at maths planning and the curriculum.

Mrs Stokes met with Mrs Howard around the English curriculum plans and resources.

Mrs Bray from the Teaching School – spent a day with Mrs Humphrey looking at plans for school improvement.

Mrs Kett met with Mrs Humphrey and Mrs Green.

Please and thank you

We appreciate that there are some things which during lockdown have become the norm for families (staff included!) but in our hope to get back to working in school as we did, please can we remind you that we advocate

- Healthy snacks for breaktime – sadly we have noticed children bringing bags of sweets or chocolate.
- Water and not squash in bottles.
- Earlier bedtimes – children are adjusting to full time learning in school so we anticipate they will be tired but, we have heard from some that they are tired from not getting to bed early enough to enable them to be fully rested before the next school day.

Thank you for your support with these.

Wishing you a lovely weekend, with the sunshine continuing.

Mrs Humphrey
Interim Headteacher