

07/09/2020

Dear Pupils, Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

Welcome back! It has been a positive first day for the pupils and we have been pleased to see them back in school. The school, despite obvious adaptations, is starting to feel normal again.

This morning, the staggered starting times worked to some degree to minimise numbers on the site but we did have a large gathering outside of the Parkways gate. **To prevent this, please only arrive at your child's designated drop off time. If you have more than one child to drop off, bring all of your children at the latest time.** Please do not arrive before your drop-off time as this causes the congestion that we saw this morning. As a reminder, please see the timetable below:

	Nursery	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three/Four	Year Five	Year Six
<b>Drop-Off</b>	8.40am	Seahorses: 8.50am  Jellyfish: 9.00am	Stingrays: 8.50am  Adélie Penguins: 9.00am	Swordfish: 8.50am  Sailfish: 9.00am	8.55am	8.50am	8.45am

	Nursery	Reception	Year One	Year Two	Year Three/Four	Year Five	Year Six
<b>Collection</b>	3.10pm	Seahorses: 3.15pm  Jellyfish: 3.25pm	Stingrays: 3.15pm  Adélie Penguins: 3.25pm	Swordfish: 3.15pm  Sailfish: 3.25pm	3.20pm#	3.15pm*	3.10pm*

\*Year Five and Year Six pupils will be walked to the Green Lea gate by staff for collection at the end of the day.

# Children in Flying Fish and Barracudas will be dropped off at their classroom doors but will be collected from the KS2 playground. Octopus class will be dropped off and collected from their classroom door.

As we continue to get used to the new drop-off/collection arrangements, please continue to be patient and understanding. We are all adjusting and it will take time to identify and find a solution to any unforeseen problems. Please be flexible and change your own home routines to help make our timetable work. A polite reminder that I will not tolerate any abusive behaviour towards staff who are trying to keep everyone safe. Abusive behaviour may result in you not being allowed to enter the school grounds. Sadly, there was some less than satisfactory behaviour reported today.

We know that the lockdown affected children's learning and that parents will be conscious of this. Over the next few weeks, we will be assessing the children to ascertain the gaps that they may have and to plan our next steps. We will be working hard to ensure that we plan a suitable curriculum that helps to address the period of missed learning. We will give you more details over the coming weeks as we establish the areas of need. At this point, we will also decide on the best use of the new Government Catch Up Grant.

As a school, we are changing the way that we teach phonics and early reading. We are moving to a programme called Read, Write Inc. Last week, staff have had two days of training on this. Moving to this programme means that children in Reception, Year One, Year Two and some pupils in Year Three/Four will start reading a selection of new books closely linked to the scheme. As such, there is going to be a delay in sending home reading books to allow us to assess each child and then match them to the correct level on the programme. You will be given more information about the new programme shortly which will give you more specific details about how Read, Write Inc. works. In the meantime, please continue to share books with your child at home and online texts can be accessed on Oxford Owl. Local libraries are also a fantastic resource which have now reopened. Children in Year Five and Six will start bringing books home as usual over the coming week.

I will be producing a school calendar. However, at this time, we are unsure about the restrictions that will be in place. We are planning to hold some virtual events but some of our usual events may not happen this year. We will put provisional dates in for some events which will be reviewed closer to the time to establish if they can still take place- we will let you know individually for each event.

Due to the success of our virtual assemblies at the end of last year, we are continuing to broadcast our Friday celebration assembly on Facebook. This will start on Friday at 2.45pm. We hope that you can join us then.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Horton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr R Horton  
Head Teacher