

14.7.20

Dear parents and carers,

This is your weekly newsletter and I hope you find it useful.

At the moment we are all having to adapt and make changes in reaction to an unprecedented global pandemic. Hairdressers, shops and public transport have had to make changes to the way they run their businesses and school is no exception. Consequently, I am having to make some changes for September to ensure that I am following government guidance. Some of these changes are unfortunately not how I want to run my school but in order to protect the community, and keep the children and staff safe these changes have to be made. I really hope that they won't be around past October half term but unfortunately the virus is still around and I have to adhere to the rules. Please bear with me, I promise that your children will access a curriculum which is full and varied, any gaps which have developed in their learning over lockdown will be identified and addressed and their mental health and wellbeing will be supported. The changes are logistical and clerical - the ethos of Oxenhope being a family centred, nurturing, home like place where children build a love of learning which lasts a lifetime, is still very much at the heart of everything we are trying to achieve. With extra cleaning and handwashing thrown in the mix!

## **Communication**

I hope this weekly letter is helpful and that you feel fully informed with everything that we are doing in school and the changes. If you do have a question, comment (both negative and positive) and you want to talk to me about it you are more than welcome to email/ring. I would always advise you to contact your child's class teacher as a first point of contact as I sometimes don't answer my email as quickly as the staff do.

I often find that it's easier to get things out in the open and chat things through and this helps reduce anxiety. Trust me there are no stupid questions and I prefer to sort things out then and there rather than let things get bigger than they need to be.

## **Uniform**

From September the children will need to wear a uniform. This will need to be washed every day at 60 degrees. On your child's PE day, they can come to school in their PE kit to avoid parents having to wash two sets of clothes and to ensure that no special gender changing needs to take place which could contaminate another place in school. You will be notified of your child's PE day.

Please look at the website for an up to date uniform policy.

## Start/finish times and pickup arrangements

In September to adhere to social distancing we are continuing with some staggered entry times. Please read the table below:

- If your child has a sibling with a different finish time, older child can go home with the younger child and we will arrange this at pick at up time. **However, we will not be allowed to accept older children at the same time as younger children in the morning.** This means in some cases there may be 30mins between drop off times for children. If you know another parent who could drop off your child for you, this is fine, as long as the children are in the same bubble. I appreciate that this is not ideal, but these rules are in place to reduce cross-contamination and congestion in the playground.
- It is important that children arrive on time and are picked up on time to avoid contact as much as possible with another Bubble.
- We are asking that only one parent picks up and drops off (unless bringing another child in the same bubble).
- You will be required to queue and keep to a 2 metre distance.
- Children will not be allowed to play in the playground before or after school.
- No scooters or bikes can be brought into school.

We are letting year 5 and 6 walk to school and walk home on their own as this will reduce adults in and around school. Please ensure that you have emailed the school office giving your permission for this otherwise we will not allow you child to leave the building unattended.

Class	Start time	Entry door	Finish time	Collection point
Reception	9.00	Reception slope	3.15	Council Macca Gate (by the basketball court)
Year 1	8:40	Link Corridor	2:55	Bottom Playground Gate
Year 2	8:30	Link Corridor	2.45	Council Macca Gate (by the basketball court)
Year 3	8:45	Year 3/4 cloakroom	3.00	Council Macca Gate (by the basketball court)
Year 4	9.00	Year 4 fire exit	3.15	Year 4 fire exit
Year 5	9.00	Link Corridor	3.15	Bottom playground gate
Year 6	9.00	Main Entrance	3.15	Main gate

If your child is booked into Explorers, they will access it at their individual finish time.

### **September information**

I am presenting my full opening plan to the Trust on Wednesday and therefore I will be sending you a full information letter on Thursday. I will be available to discuss this with people until Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> July at lunchtime.

Thank you

Mrs Jones