

# Lydbrook Primary School

School Road, Lydbrook, Gloucestershire, GL17 9PX

Head Teacher: Mr Simon T Lusted, M.Sc.



4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/carers

Wow! What a week! I have been so proud of the way that the children have returned to school this week. They have done so well and have settled so quickly. It has been so good to have the full school back again!

The children have coped so well with the changes that have been made to ensure that we are keeping them (and the staff) as safe as we can. Class bases are operating as normally as possible and the staggering of break times, lunches and the beginning and end of the day have all helped to keep a social distance between the groups as much as possible.

A full and detailed Risk Assessment has been completed and has been sent to the Local Authority. This is being constantly reviewed and updated. If you would like a copy of the current document, please contact the office and ask for it to be e-mailed to you. Once the document has been fully approved and any amendments have been made, a copy will be placed on our website.

NHS guidance regarding "what happens if my child is showing signs of not being well" has been placed on the school's website under the Coronavirus tab. It is to be expected that the children will show signs of a cold etc at some point but it is important to look at all the expected symptoms for coronavirus before becoming concerned. These include a temperature, a new and persistent cough and a loss of taste/smell. If in any doubt please contact us and discuss the situation before sending your child or their siblings into school.

To continue to support us in the organisation of the school day to keep the children and their families safe, I would very much ask you all to keep to the timings sent out last week. By introducing this staggered system it prevents too many families gathering at the different school gates at the same time.

I have included them again to remind you all and thank you in anticipation of your support.

## **Arrival**

Time	Class	Gate	Class entrance	
8.45	Hawks	Main gate	Straight to front entrance of bottom block	
8.45	Magpies	Main gate	Reception entrance	
8.45	Woodpeckers	Side Kitchen gate	Side door of classroom	
8.45	Owls and Robins	Lay by side gate	Top of steps to early years block	
8.55 to 9.05*	Jays	Main gate	Classroom ,side door	

<sup>\*</sup>Jays will need to arrive no earlier than 8.55 and no later than 9.05 to avoid large gatherings at the main gate unless they are a sibling of a child in another class. These siblings will be able to go straight to their classrooms as well and this will prevent a parent from staying around the school site for a longer period of time.

## Leaving

Time	Class	Gate	Class entrance
2.45	Early Years – Owls and Robins	Lay by side gate	Top of steps to early years block
2.45	Joys Green Bus pupils	Main gate	Escorted to bus by staff members
2.50	Woodpeckers	Side Kitchen gate	Side door of classroom
2.50	Magpies	Main gate	Reception entrance
2.50	Older siblings in Jays and Hawks	Main gate	
3.00	Hawks and Jays	Main gate	Front/side entrance of bottom block

Collection should be made at the same school gate as used in the morning. It is also very important for parents to socially distance whilst waiting and to leave promptly when the children come out. It is very important that parents follow this guidance to reduce the amount of contact and to help keep everyone safe.

It is also very important that cars **DO NOT** drive up School Road at the beginning and end of the day. I have some parents trying to do this and it is not helpful at all and does put children and their families at risk. Please park away from the school and WALK – thank you.

## **Curriculum Plans**

Look out for your child's exciting learning themes for the term. These will be placed on the class page on the school's website next week. Although we cannot offer any on school site information regarding the learning themes as we have in the past, we will continue to update how you can support your child's learning at home.

Homework will be set as normal following the school policy. It is important for your child to practice their key learning at home as well as in school. The parents who can regularly do this really do make a difference to their child's progress. Reading and number bonds are so important and we expect children in Owls, Woodpeckers and Magpies to read their allocated school reading book at least 3 times per week at home and for Jays and Hawks it is a minimum of 4 reads. A home/school reading book will be issued to all the pupils and it is the parent's responsibility to sign this book every time the child has managed to read. 10 minutes on each occasion reading to an adult (to help with accuracy and fluency) is the best help you can provide. We will also be providing your child with a "free choice" reading book to promote a love of reading which they may choose to bring home. This however, is for enjoyment only and cannot contribute towards the 3 or 4 reads recorded in the home/school book.

The children will also be issued with their new Maths Passport over the coming days and again these key number bonds should be practised at home to improve their fluency as much as possible.

## **PE sessions**

On the curriculum plans there will be an indication of when your child will be doing PE. For this they will need to wear their kit into school on this day. Due to the current situation we will not be able to provide changing times/facilities.

Allocated PE sessions for the classes are as follows:

Owls	Wednesday	Jays	Thursday
Woodpeckers	Wednesday	Hawks	Friday

Magpies Friday

#### **INSET days**

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week the staff looked at the development of 3 very important areas which form the heart of the school's development plan. The presentations were very much research based and focussed on the areas that provide the best chances of success for our pupils, not only at primary but in secondary and into adult life. These areas are language and communication and reading. For reading we will be providing more opportunities for the children to read in school, to be read to and for more discussion to take place on what has been read. We are also keen to provide a reading culture into the school.

Language and Communication are the two most important skills for life and we will be introducing more opportunities for the children to develop these skills during the school day. Our Early Years team presented key information to the rest of the school on how they develop language from when they start in the nursery and how they base the development of language into every learning opportunity.

We also spent time reflecting on the importance of a "Growth Mindset" and of meta-cognition. Watch out for lots of information regarding the brain in the coming few weeks and the link with how we learn and how we should look after our brain. It is also important for us to aspire to do better and to be as good as we can be. We all make mistakes and through making mistakes we learn. At Lydbrook, we believe that by trying really hard we can achieve anything.

These areas highlighted above, formulate the main elements of our School Development Plan which has been written and approved by the Governors for the next 2 to 3 years.

#### After-school care and Breakfast Club

It is hoped that we may be able to offer some form of After-school Care or Breakfast Club in the near future. If these are services that you are considering to use please fill in the short survey provided by following this link

#### **Breakfast and Afterschool Club**

This will allow us to gauge interest and numbers before considering how this provision can be restarted as soon as possible.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy weekend and to thank you for all your support this week. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions.

Best wishes

**Simon Lusted** 

**Head Teacher** 

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