

Key Dates:

24th September— ‘Settling into school’ reports to parents, via email

23rd October — Staff Professional Day (school closed)

26th –30th October— Autumn half-term holiday

18th November — Flu vaccinations for children— letter to follow

Welcome to our Nursery and Reception Years

From Monday morning Nursery and Reception children will be returning to or starting our school after a week of Induction meetings. Arrival and pick-up times will be *much* busier for us all, as a result.

Please arrive at the time stated for your child’s class. It is so important to give every adult and child the safe space to enter. Arriving early creates a ‘crush’ of people at the entrance to the school. This can increase the chance of transmission of the virus and I know we would not want this to happen. Thank you in advance for keeping a close eye on your arrival times.

Exceptions and Exemptions

If you have more than one child at Spring Meadow or St Marys you can go straight to the class, even if it is not the expected start time. There is an exemption list in place. If you need to be added to this list, please inform any member of staff at the Marshall points as you enter the school grounds or email the school office.

First week back after school closures across the country

It has been such a pleasure to see everyone back at school. Parents report being so relieved that their children are back with their friends. Teachers report happy children playing wonderfully in class and in the playground. Handwashing regularly is now part of the daily routine and eating lunch in a row, instead of in groups, is also now a well-established process. Parents and children are socially distancing as much as is possible and wearing masks to protect themselves and others, just in case distancing is not possible.

Thank you to everyone. You have all worked so hard to make the first week back a success for the children!

Learning at school following school closures

Many parents may be wondering how we are delivering the curriculum to the children, knowing that so much school time has been missed. I have set out below how we are working now and the plan going forward, so you have an insight into the learning journey for your child at this time:

Autumn Term 2020

7th September to 23rd October - we will provide bespoke learning opportunities for every child. We will do this to find out what they know and have remembered. We will do this so we can teach precisely what they need to learn next. English, Maths and wellbeing are the main areas of focus.

2nd November to 19th December - we will continue to provide bespoke learning (personalised to the child) to find out how well each child is progressing. We will increase the time spent on reading and writing and maths, but maintain wellbeing to support children’s needs.

Spring Term 2021 and Summer Term 2021— we plan to provide a full curriculum offer from January 2021. A new curriculum plan will be available on the website in the next few weeks.

Going Forward during these times

Parents have asked me if their child will be sent home if they have a cough or a sore throat or a runny nose.

This is a difficult one to answer. None of the usual coughs and colds indicate a child has the virus and we will work with you to try and make the right decisions if this issue arises. If you are concerned, then I know you will keep your child at home and telephone to inform the school by 9am. If we are concerned, we will speak with you. Children will only be asked to go home if I as the Head Teacher decide the symptoms indicate this need.

Keeping clean hands and away from crowded places will hopefully stop the contractions of germs and we will all stay well.

Reading At Home

This is an essential daily routine for your child. The daily practising of reading is the true foundation to later success for your child. Books will come home every day. If your child has a school red book bag, please use this to hold the book. If they do not, we will provide a clear plastic wallet. Please keep all large bags and rucksacks at home. Our space in school is now so limited and we need to keep items in school to a minimum.

FIRST AID — PROCEDURES FOR INFORMING PARENTS

We will be contacting parents via email now if their child has a bump to the head or a minor accident that requires first aid treatment whilst at school, so that you can keep an eye on them at home. Minor scrapes that can be treated in the classroom or playground with a clean and a plaster and a lot of TLC will not be notifiable.