



FAB Notes: Issue 8

Information from

Mrs Boucher

W/B Monday 20 July 2020

THE ONE ABOUT...PLANS FOR SEPTEMBER

In this edition, I am delighted to run through aspects of our plans for September 2020. I hope to capture lots of different elements here, which I hope will reassure and inform you.

- New School Year: the first few days...

School opens to pupils from Y1-Y6 on Wednesday 2 September 2020. Current Nursery and Reception children will spend the Wednesday in their current classroom with their current teacher; on Thursday 3 September, current Reception pupils will move up into Y1; current Nursery children will be home-based, as they will be meeting with Mrs Bradbury (and parents) in turn throughout Thursday and Friday that week, then following the careful plans put together by the school team for induction into Reception class 2020-21.

- Uniform & equipment

School jumpers, cardigans and ties are ordered from the school office: skirts/ pinafores/ trousers (school variety only) should be grey. We would like all pupils to have a school book bag: these fit easily into lockers and avoid bulky rucksacks, which don't! Sensible school shoes are a must – black, blue, brown or grey. PE kits can be brought into school in a pump bag: black or navy shorts and a plain white t-shirt: children should not have colourful or logo items. A pair of black or navy joggers can be added when the weather gets colder. Individual packs of pens/ pencils etc have worked well during Covid: we'd like to continue with children having their own equipment to hand, therefore we request a pencil case (we will fill it!) to be brought on day 1: but please ensure this is not bulky! Any child in receipt of pupil premium funding can have support in buying the above items.

- Attendance

All pupils will be expected to come to school in September. We are thoroughly looking forward to having everyone back! There has been information in the press about fines being issued for non-attendance: we do not expect to have to resort to such measures, as we expect to continue to benefit from parental support with school attendance.

Attendance was already lower than I would expect last year, prior to March: we have a whole school target to improve this, so now is a better time than ever to pledge for high attendance.

While we can't plan for unexpected illness, parents can resolve not to request time out of school in term time – which is only available in very special circumstances in any case.

- Start/Finish times of the school day

Surname	Arrival time	Pick up time
A-H	8.35 – 8.40 am	2.55 pm
I-P	8.45 – 8.50 am	3.05 pm
Q-Z	8.55 – 9.00 am	3.15 pm

We have tried to stick as closely to the 'real' school times, while allowing for a 'window' to enable people to come to/go from the site with less crowding. Please stick as closely as possible to your allotted timing – otherwise it will have a knock-on effect.

If you have children with differing surnames, please bring them all at the later option on offer.

Y1-Y6 will enter/exit through the usual cloakroom door, via the top playground.

- One-way system

We have established a good one-way system around the site: please follow this when coming onto school grounds. Dogs should not come through the school gates. Parents should avoid congregating together.

- Class arrangements

Year Group	Teacher/s	information
Nursery	Mrs Finney	EYFS Team: Mrs Finney & Mrs Bradbury
Reception	Mrs Bradbury	
Y1	Mrs Bramhall & Mrs Rourke	KS1 Team: Miss Poole, Mrs Bramhall & Mrs Rourke
Y2	Miss Poole & Mrs Rourke	
Y3	Miss Davies & Mrs Britton	Lower KS2 Team: Mrs Britton, Mrs Frost & Miss Davies
Y4	Mrs Frost & Mrs Britton	
Y5	Mrs Wilde and Mrs Emery	Upper KS2 Team: Mrs Wilde, Mrs Thompson & Mrs Emery
Y6	Mrs Thompson and Mrs Emery	

- Working in bubbles

Each class becomes a bubble of its own in September. Classes will not mix widely: on occasion, year groups may play alongside a neighbouring year group – e.g. Y1 with Y2, Y5 with Y6 etc. Staff will be able to move between bubbles, but we will minimise this as much as possible.

- Lunchtimes

Infant pupils will eat in the school hall on a rota, so that each class has a designated time after which

the space can be cleaned. Juniors will eat in their classrooms. Hot options will be provided: Mrs Woodward has sourced some excellent containers in order to make this possible for KS2. After eating, children will have time to play outside, with a rota in place for the use of outdoor spaces.

- Learning

We do not intend to leave aspects of the curriculum aside when the new school year begins. Our rich curriculum will see us through! We will be assessing children's knowledge, understanding, retention and any gaps, then planning accordingly. The Recovery Curriculum is a phrase we have been using to acknowledge the initial approach we will take – knowing that some children will be apprehensive, some over excited, some confused (- add in any other descriptions here!) by how life has unfolded since March, which will impact on their thoughts and feelings about the new school year. A term we have considered for the future is Our Rainbow Curriculum, which nicely relates to the positive rainbow symbol of the Covid period. One of the overarching messages is that we will collectively draw on our compassion, so that all will be welcomed and eased back into school life, no matter what has or hasn't happened since we were last together.

In terms of what school actually look and feel like in the new school year, in my last issue of FAB notes I shared some elements of our Recovery Curriculum planning.

<https://www.loom.com/share/c5e96d9db68e4d7bb783e48f5e1fb4f9>

We were already revising our curriculum prior to the pandemic! Updated overviews are now available, and I will begin to share these with you through the school website and possibly an additional video message very soon. In the Advent term, I would love to hold a curriculum evening – though this may have to be an online meeting. Watch this space.

- Worship

We will continue to hold dear our times of praise and prayer, though these will be without our beloved singing for a while... Prayer times will continue in classrooms and on occasion with another year group in the hall – but whole school worship is not possible for now. We hope to recreate this using link up technology – for which we are gaining support through the Trust. I intend to record class-based assembly material.

- Handwashing, health and hygiene

The children are now well-versed in thorough hand washing; these measures will continue to be imperative in maintaining high levels of hygiene in

school. Hands will be washed on entry, after being outside, before eating, after using the toilets as well as various other points in the day. Daily cleaning of the spaces will continue, plus mid-morning, lunchtime and mid-afternoon 'wipe downs.' Hand sanitizer has been provided by the Trust and these are to be found in various areas for adult access around the school: this will be alcohol based from September to ensure germs are kept at bay.

If your child becomes ill, we will notify you – as we usually do. If your child is on site and displaying signs of Coronavirus, s/he will be looked after in a well ventilated space while we await their collection; we will advise you to book a test for your child and you will need to follow the self-isolation guidance as a family. As a courtesy, we will inform parents of that cohort that a pupil has shown symptoms; the closing of that bubble will take place if there is a confirmed case diagnosed. The latest guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>

- Kids' Club

One of the biggest headaches has been the inability to open our breakfast and after school club immediately after the holidays – or run the Holiday Club element. The first priority on our return will be in re-establishing the smooth running of the school – this being our core purpose. Once we are satisfied that we have this in place, we will look to reopen our wrap around care facility – a service we are happy to add into the working day, but which comes second to the education we are providing. We understand that these two parts (school and Kids' Club) roll together as one for many parents, which is why we will keep this upper most in our minds. The overwhelming majority of parents – even those for whom this is highly stressful and/or problematic, have shown sterling support for us as we grapple with the challenges we face as a school: thank you.

REPORTS 2020

Please note the information shared in Friday's bulletin as this contains directions about how to respond and where to send feedback.

GOOD WISHES

Thank you, as ever, for being the best parent body a school could wish for. We continue to keep everyone in our thoughts and prayers.

Fionuala Boucher