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Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Green

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace
1 Peter 4:10*

Friday 19th June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: School Reopening Updates and News

School has begun to start buzzing with the sound of children as we have slowly and carefully filled up all of the 2 metre distanced spaces available to us. We are very excited about welcoming our youngest pupils back on Monday 22nd June.

Please don't forget:

- Reception children should arrive for school at 9:20 (or earlier if they have a sibling in an older group) and be picked up at 12 midday
- Put on sun cream before coming to school
- Soap and emollient for hands if child suffering from sore hands due to frequency of washing
- Flexible uniform as they require clean clothes every day
- Robust outdoor shoes (trainers are acceptable)
- Packed lunch and water bottle (you can also order the universal free school meal if your child is in YR/1)
- Sun hat
- Your child should not attend a child minding service. In order to minimise contact between groups of children and staff, children should attend just one setting wherever possible.

Key Workers

I have continued to receive communications from key worker parents / carers requesting places for their children. Having reconfigured our 'bubbles' on an almost daily basis over the past few weeks, we have now reached our full capacity. Please speak to me if you are unable to find alternative child care and we will work on a solution together.

Unlike children in the specified groups (Reception, Y1 and Y6), our key worker groups are mixed-age from Reception to Y5. This means that learning in the group is organised around activities that all of the children can access at their level of need and challenge. There will be Maths and English work (and every child is read with) but the majority of activities take place outside. Children are unable to move around the classroom so physical outdoor activities are taking priority at present. I would advise that you continue to do a manageable amount of the home learning tasks that your child's class teacher has set for them as this will support their continued progress.

September:

We are working on a plan to provide a school session for children who are not currently attending school. This will take place before the end of term. We want to be able to give your child a chance to meet with the teacher that they will be with in September and to re-familiarise themselves with the school environment.

We hope to send out dates next week. These meetings will not apply to children who are currently attending school as we need to avoid children crossing bubbles. We aim to arrange for teachers to catch up with the children who are in school at a different time.

Thank You:

We were delighted to receive a box of goodies for the Morley team from Elisa P and her family. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

Thank you to the parents / carers who have returned the children and parent questionnaires. It has been very helpful to know how you and your child have managed during this time. Do continue to let us know if there is anything we can do to support you – even if it's just delivering a work pack because the Wi-Fi is playing up!!

Home Learning:

The children who are remaining at home currently are extremely important to us. Despite our teachers being in the classroom during the day, they continue to provide home learning work and engage with children in the Google Classroom.

Thank you for responding to our survey last week. I have now requested that Teachers make contact with you to set up the dates and times for telephone calls with your child or small, online group meetings.

Online Learning

A small number of our parents believe that 'many' other schools are providing online meetings and lessons. National surveys show that only 2% of state primary schools are doing this and 28% of private schools. I am a member of a Norfolk head teacher network, and none of the members are providing online lessons.

Where schools are doing this, they had an agreed and well established model for doing it prior to the lockdown. For example, private schools have provided their own secure digital tablets for use by their pupils. Pupils who attend private schools are more likely to have technology and support from home to facilitate online lessons.

One suggestion from parents was that teaching in the physical classrooms should be live-streamed. This notion is fraught with safeguarding issues. Geoff Barton, general secretary at the Association of College and School Leaders, has urged "caution" over live-streaming lessons, which he describes as "problematic when used with groups which may be difficult to marshal, have varying levels of engagement, and in which individuals may find ways to abuse the technology".

Furthermore, there is evidence to show that children respond to learning best when they are able to interact with a teacher in a face-to-face situation. Many of our children have struggled with access to technology either because of poor broadband reception, lack of hardware or due to having to share computers with several members of their families. We have tried to be sensitive to this by providing lap tops for some families and delivering work packs to others.

At the current time, we do not have plans to provide online lessons. All of our teachers are engaged in the classroom from Monday to Thursday. On Fridays, they have planning and preparation time and also catch up with the children who are still working from home on the Google Classroom.

Parents who would like their children to view online lessons, in addition to the work that we are setting, can go to the Oak National Academy link provided here: www.thenational.academy. This is an excellent resource and I have received very positive feedback from those parents / carers who have used it.

Norfolk Library Service:

The Library Service will be running their usual summer reading challenge but everything will be done online. Go to this link to find out more: [June 2020 Resource Newsletter \(click link\)](#)

School Summer Reading Challenge:

Please encourage your child to take part in the school Summer Reading Challenge, which can be found on their class page on the website and in the Google Classroom.

Safeguarding and Wellbeing:

COVID-19 Tests

Where your child has symptoms, you should order a test immediately through www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 if you have no internet access.

Hygiene

Just One Norfolk have provided some useful videos to help your child understand the hygiene requirements to keep them safe from the coronavirus. Go to this link:

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/hygiene>

Be Tick Aware

With greater use of the woodlands during our transition back into school it is important to be aware of the risk that ticks pose to our health. Ticks are very small, spider like creatures that can cause Lyme disease. Ticks can be found all year round, and do not jump or fly, but wait on long grasses and bushes for other creatures to pass by before climbing on board. Lyme disease can be treated with antibiotics before more serious problems occur, so it is important that it is detected and treated early. Symptoms can include a flu-like illness, fatigue and muscle and joint pain and/or a characteristic expanding red rash.

It is good to get in the practise of checking your clothes and body for ticks when outdoors and when you get home, and checking your children too. Ticks prefer warm, moist places on your body such as the groin, arm pits or behind the knee. Young children are commonly bitten on the head/scalp so need to be carefully checked around the neck, in and behind the ears and along the hairline.

Ticks must be removed as soon possible. This must be done in a way which does not leave the mouth parts embedded in the host's body, or damage or squeeze the tick in any way, as this can cause its saliva or gut contents to be released into the host's body, which may contain infections. You must use fine-pointed tweezers or a tick removal tool (the preferred tool of health professionals can be found in the amazon link below - although Lidl has also started stocking tick removal kits for £1.50) to remove the tick. With tweezers, hold the tick as close to the skin as possible to avoid breaking the mouth parts, and pull upwards with a steady, even pressure. Do not twist, jerk or handle the tick. The tick should be placed in a small, dated plastic bag and be sent off to the Public Health England surveillance scheme for ticks. After removal, wipe the skin with a disinfectant wipe and wash your hands.

Further information can be found via the following link, along with the preferred removal tool.

<https://globallymealliance.org/education-awareness/be-tick-aware/>
https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/B0089BOK12/ref=crt_ewc_title_huc_1?ie=UTF8&psc=1&smid=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE

Celebration Friday

Our children have completed some wonderful work this week. The teachers have nominated the following children for special mention:

- **Mrs Cooper and Mrs Easter say:** *What another great week from Pine Class. We have loved seeing all your mini-beast work and models. We are very impressed with the writing that you are all doing, working hard on letter formation and starting sentences with capital letters and ending them with full stops. Well done!*
- **Mr Watson says:** *Well done to all the Year 1 children who have been back in school this week. They have quickly settled into our new surroundings and been working hard. We have decided to call our bubble the 'Rainbow Superheroes!' Also fantastic work from Evie for doing some great learning about shapes this week, using her right angle checker to find lots of right angles at home.*
- **Mrs O'Dell says:** *Willow Class special mentions on Google Classroom this week - Frankie has loaded on some great work as has Finley T; Tiana who loaded an impressive array of work and Florentine who wrote a fabulous story. Chloe has done some great work on My Maths and so has Poppy. As usual too many to mention everyone by name.*

- **Mr East says:** *These children are Sycamore's stars this week: Immy - for an excellent plant diagram; Charles - for super hard work yet again across all subjects and Ben - for a really interesting piece of work on bark rubbings!*
- **Mr Clements says:** *Well done to all of Rowan Class for the excellent home learning this week. Special mentions to Lily for some amazing science, Amelia for a great poster and Jake for an excellent sculpture. Well done everyone!*

Values Certificates

- **Thomas – Courage:** For showing great courage as he has been at school with different children and in a different classroom. Well done Thomas, we are super proud of you!
- **Liam – Perseverance:** For working very hard with his phonics, he completed all the tasks set and tried very hard with his letter formation too - it was very good. Well done Liam!
- **Henry – Perseverance:** For working really hard this week and showing great perseverance practising doubling numbers in Maths.
- **Arthur - Responsibility:** For taking responsibility for his learning at home and working really hard learning about 2D & 3D shapes this week.
- **Oscar - Friendship and respect:** Oscar goes out of his way to look out for others and support them. He always offers to help and works really hard at any task he is given.
- **Jacob - Friendship** - For supporting others at break time and in PE this week.
- **Tiana - Perseverance** - For such a lovely range of beautiful work posted on the Google Classroom this week.
- **Tiernan - Perseverance:** For working so hard on his play script, with a great introduction video and so many scenes!
- **Heather - Perseverance:** For trying so hard to complete her trebuchet in school, trying lots of different ideas and never giving up.
- **Eva - Perseverance:** For a constant brilliant attitude towards all of her home learning.



Some of our children have celebrated their birthdays this week. I'd like to say a big

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to

SOPHIE E, AIMEE AND FERGUS!

And finally:

Our School Prayer:

**Heavenly Father,
Remind us to use our gifts, to serve one another, as good stewards of your varied grace.**

Amen

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Laura Green'.

Laura Green
Executive Head Teacher

