

27<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

**A huge thank you!**

It has been delightful to welcome back all our students this week. I hadn't realised how much we had missed them until the sound of laughter and play filled the playground again. Our students have adapted to the new hygiene and lunchtime routines extremely well. We will be offering hot food on some days from next week and further information about this will follow.

I would also like to say a massive thank you to all of our parents and families – I know that the one way system around school means that some of you have an extra five minutes to walk around school, but this system really does keep us all safe. It means that we do not have adults crossing in narrow spaces and everyone is walking in the same direction, avoiding face to face closeness. You have also maintained social distancing in the main playgrounds and we are very grateful that you are following the rules and keeping our whole community as safe as we can. Some of you have come to see me specifically to say how happy you are with the measures we have in place and I really appreciate that you understand why we have different routines, even though they may inconvenience you a little.

We have seen articles in the press this week that show very different scenarios at other schools around the country and we are very proud that our families are so helpful and supportive.

Although we have stated that students can be collected from 2.45pm, on the days that your child's class has library or PE in the afternoon, they may not be back in their classroom until 3pm so please do not come before that time on those days.

If you collect at home time from the main front playground and need to exit via the Barkerend Road exit it is ok to go back out of the exit near the timber trail playground. This is because we have large double gates there that allow social distancing. At all other gates the one way system must be strictly adhered to.

Although we have staff outside at drop off and home time, please stick to the one way system even when staff members are not present. If we can all maintain this system we will not need to impose the drop off times that other schools are having to use. This can mean that many parents can have up to a half hour wait between siblings being dropped off and we do not want to impose this on our families, especially with winter around the corner!

Our systems will be in place for some time to come so please remember to wear appropriate clothing and bring an umbrella when the weather is bad so that you do not get wet when walking around the school building.

We will be constantly reviewing and improving what we have in place and may make some slight changes over the next few weeks so please watch out for all communication from school and ensure you understand it.

As always, we are grateful for your support and look forward to seeing you all again next week.

Yours sincerely



Helen Haunch  
Principal

