

1st September 2020

Dear families,

### **Welcome back!**

It was lovely to see so many students back in school today, looking smart and being able to socialise with their friends and staff. We hope that the children have enjoyed being back as much as we have enjoyed seeing them. A huge thank you to you all for observing the one way system around school. This may be in place for some time to come and it is important that everyone follows it at all times in order to keep everyone safe.

Your class teacher will be able to answer any questions about school routines that you may have and information regarding PE and library days is displayed in the notice board outside your child's classroom.

**Contact details** - please ensure the office have your current contact details. Our main method of contact with parents is by text message.

**Nuts** – we have a new student in school who has a severe nut allergy. If your child is in Years 1 – 6 and brings a packed lunch into school please ensure there are no products which include nuts.

**PE** - On PE days your child should come to school in their PE kit but wearing their school jumper, as before the summer holidays. Earrings (studs only) must be removed or covered with tape.

**Library** -We were lucky enough just before the holidays to have a complete overhaul and refurbishment of our school library. We have spent over £6000 on new books to ensure that we have a full range of different text types and reading challenges for our students. We have a part time librarian who will work with your child during their library session to make it an exciting lesson and enable them to choose appropriate and challenging texts. Reading is one of the most important things you can help your child with at home. Please read with your child and encourage them to talk about what they are reading and learning – it makes a real difference to their development. We will be encouraging our students to take a real pride in our library and to take real care with our new books. We often find that younger siblings have scribbled in books, or they have been left on a table and are covered in food items! We are unlikely to have the opportunity to refresh our library like this again for a very long time and therefore *we will be asking parents and carers to pay for any damaged books that are returned to school.* Your child will only have one day a week where they are able to change their library book so please encourage them to be organised and bring their book on the correct day. All books that are returned to school will be 'quarantined' and not returned onto shelves until a period of at least 72 hours has passed.

**Uniform** – it was lovely to see most of our students in the correct uniform and looking very clean and smart. If you still have items of uniform to buy please do this as soon as possible. We are finding that our students want 'normality' to resume as soon as possible and being part of our school community through a common dress code enables them to feel a real sense of belonging to the school.

**IT** – over the summer we have also had a refit of all the computing equipment and internet facilities in school. This is part of a Dixons wide IT and computing project and has made a huge difference for our staff and students. Every computer has been replaced and the speeds at which we are able to access learning are much improved. This can only enhance the learning experience for our students and we are very excited that it has happened.

We are so very proud of our students – they have been through a very strange school year and have handled it very well. Even though we have many new routines in place (and a LOT of handwashing!) they have adapted extremely confidently and seem very glad to be back at school.

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions,



**Mrs H Haunch**  
**Principal**

