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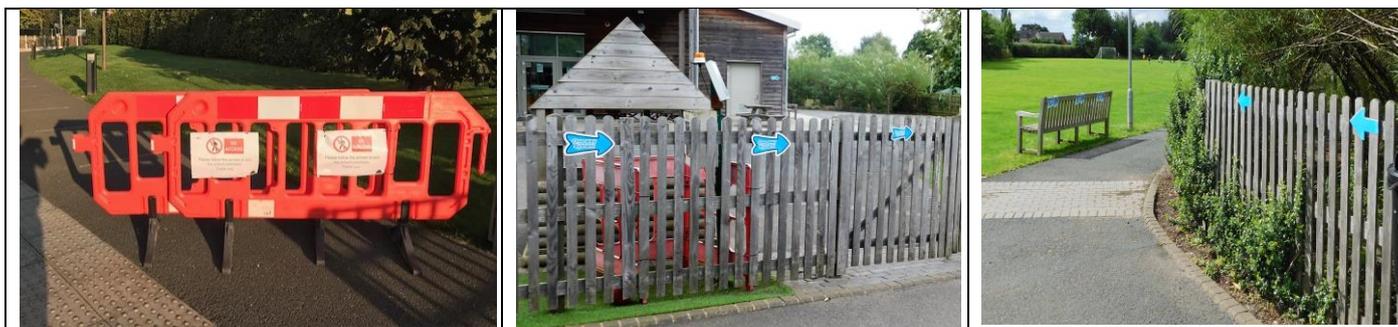
Head Teacher: Mr S Arnold

Monday 14th September 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Following the start of this new term and new school year, I feel compelled to write to inform you of our delight at seeing the children return with such tangible energy, enthusiasm and appreciation for lessons and learning. It has been a joy welcoming all our children back and to listen to their conversations with one-another having clearly missed seeing friends and teachers. It has most definitely been a tonic following a period of such uncertainty regarding the reopening of schools.

I would also like to thank you for your support in following our circuitous pathways around school thus minimising possible transmission of the virus – following the arrows and one-way systems.



Additional thanks also for following our guidelines limiting family members dropping off and collecting children at the start and end of the day, limiting it to one family member only. *Thank you.*

Thank you further for supporting us in the adherence to our absence reporting procedures – contacting the School Office either by telephone or email informing us of your child's absence. In accordance with the guidelines, we are required to monitor all absences and report to Wolverhampton's Local Health Protection Team, absences of virus-related symptoms. If your child presents with symptoms, the following testing and isolation rules apply:

1. If you or your child develops one or more symptoms, no matter how mild, a new temperature, a new continuous cough and a change or loss to the sense of taste or smell, a test must be sought immediately.
2. If symptomatic, the symptomatic person must isolate for ten days from the first day of symptoms.
3. All other household members (without symptoms) should isolate for 14 days from day 1 of symptoms in the symptomatic person. Only if the household members develop symptoms, do they need to get a test and commence an additional 10 days isolation from the onset of symptoms and get tested as soon as possible
4. If the test is negative and symptoms have receded, your child can return to school if they feel well enough to do so – as long as they are free of fever, vomiting and diarrhoea for 48 hours prior to their return.

From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow...



5. For our monitoring and reporting to the Local Health Protection Team, we voluntarily ask you to provide us with evidence of the test result or remain away from school for the full 10-day period.

Thank you for our understanding and support.

The above guidelines also apply to our staff members and therefore, there may be times when your child has a different teacher or member of staff covering the class in the teacher's absence. Teaching and learning will remain focused on the year group's planning as far as possible.

Curriculum Newsletters: Historically, we have welcomed you into school for our new term's 'Meet the Teacher' meetings and to share with you teachers' expectations for the school year ahead. There will be many changes to our routines and holding of meetings while we continue to follow the Government's guidelines for helping to reduce the rate of infection and for keeping all of our stakeholders safe and well. Therefore, this year we have uploaded powerpoints for all year groups, which explain the organisation and expectations for the year. They can be accessed via our School's website: www.oakmeadowsschool.uk

The 'Welcome to...' powerpoints can be accessed via the 'Our School' drop down tab and within the 'About Us' folder' and the curriculum newsletters informing you of the term's learning focuses, within 'Our Curriculum' and 'Curriculum Information'.

Autumn Term Parent Consultations: This term and possibly for the spring term, we will operate telephone consultations. Prior to the planned call, we will provide you with your child's target sheet and information relating to their focuses for learning and this will lead the call's discussion. The consultations will take place week beginning Monday 19th October and in due course, you will receive a letter inviting you to select a convenient timed slot for your child's classteacher to ring you.

Safeguarding of Children: Last week I received some disturbing news about the posting of inappropriate Tik Tok clips of a frightening nature. Clips of this nature are not uncommon and therefore with all the advice I have been given, can I please ask you to be vigilant about your child's accessing of this site, as there is an advisory recommended age of 13 years before children access it. Thank you.

Autumn Term Assemblies: Again, avoiding mass gatherings, year group/ celebration assemblies will not take place this term. This term to-date, assemblies have taken place either virtually, led by Senior Leaders, or by classteachers in your child's classroom. As soon as guidelines change, we will notify you.

School Crossing Patrol - Peacock Avenue: As previously advised, please be aware that due to shielding of the Local Authority's School Crossing Patrol Officer, there will not be a School Crossing Patrol Warden on Peacock Avenue. I have been advised that this will be reviewed and I will be notified accordingly. In the meantime, can I please ask you to discuss this with your child/ren to ensure they walk sensibly and closely by you refraining from running ahead if exiting via this gateway. There was a near miss accident last week and given the high volume of traffic passing along Peacock Avenue, extreme caution must be taken. Thank you.

Many changes are afoot this term but as always, we thank you for your support for keeping everyone safe and secure.

Yours sincerely,

S Arnold

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