



Oughton Primary & Nursery School

June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term seems to be flying by, I do not know where the time has gone. When I consider the year we have had, it seems amazing that it is almost July!

We have been planning our transition for the children and are starting this earlier so that the children are prepared for September. Due to Covid restrictions, we have needed to adapt our transition, however, it is vital that the classes meet and start to get to know the Teachers who will be teaching them in September and other members of staff within the classroom. We have planned 'pop ins' and a session with their new Teachers over the next few weeks. Children will not go to their new classrooms until September as they are currently in use by classes. However, staff will move and spend some time with their new classes but in their existing classrooms. We have set up some activities to help support children with their transition.

We will be letting you know your child's new Teacher in due course and informing the children too.

We do not know yet about the situation in September regarding Covid-19 restrictions / guidelines, so all plans will be sent via ParentMail over August. These will detail entrances / exits / timings. I am waiting for Government guidelines. Fingers crossed, I hope that some aspects go back to normal, pre-Covid.

Covid - Important

Children cannot attend school if they have any of the three symptoms of Covid-19: new, continuous cough, lost of taste / smell or a temperature. Our biggest problem is the use of Lateral Flow Tests (30 min test) when someone shows symptoms. These do not follow procedures, they are not designed to be used on people with symptoms and do not allow a child to come back to school if they are negative.

If a child has symptoms, they must do a PCR test - this needs to be booked; the results are coming back within 24/48 hours often. **If you, your child or a member of your family tests positive, you MUST email / phone us** (if school hours) **immediately** as we need to follow our procedures to track and trace possible contacts and we may need to close a group bubble. Please ensure that you check your ParentMail notifications as all correspondence will be through this avenue. If a child is negative, please also email us to let us know.

There have been cases in Hitchin and local schools have needed to shut bubbles so we all need to be vigilant and careful. Remember, if a child is self-isolating, work will be provided as previously in Lockdown, via Microsoft Teams so please ensure that you access this. If you need to borrow a device to access the work, please email the office: admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk

Another issue we are having is trying to get hold of Parents when we have concerns about a child. Please ensure that we have up to date numbers and plenty of contacts. We have sent a ParentMail from HCC which details guidance on other illnesses.

Uniform

If you need school jumpers / cardigans for next September, please order online via ParentMail and we will send them home with your child. Please do not leave this until September as we will not be able to process orders over the holidays.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Clayton Headteacher

Health and Safety

Please make sure we always have up to date mobile numbers and email addresses so that we are able to get hold of Parents in an emergency. Please check ParentMail and read all messages sent out.

Calendar

Last day of term Wednesday 21st July - normal staggered times.

There is an Inset Day for staff on Thursday 22nd July .
2021 / 2022 dates are on our website.

Nuts - important

Please remember that we have children with nut allergies in school, some severe.

Please do NOT send your child in school with anything which has nuts in it (peanuts, walnuts, almonds, pine nuts, hazelnut, cashew and any other nuts) such as Nutella, satay, almond toppings, marzipan, snickers or sweets/chocolates with nuts.

Please check any bought products to ensure they do not contain nuts if you are supplying a packed lunch.

Staffing Update

On Friday 2nd July, Miss Budd will be leaving us as an MSA. Congratulations to her on her new role in another school. We wish her all the very best.

Governor Information

Our Governors have been meeting regularly via Microsoft Teams. They have been meeting with our Subject Leaders to discuss the curriculum in place.

Our Chair of Governors, Mrs Faye Nearney has been meeting with Mrs Clayton on a regular basis.