

Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Families

It has been a delight to welcome all of the children back to school this week. Seeing them bounce in with smiles on their faces, hearing the buzz of learning in the classrooms and the laughter on the playground has just been amazing. The children have quickly adapted to their new classes, routines and a slightly different way of working and their behaviour has been outstanding! We are all so proud of them!

Thank you to all our families for your support in implementing the new systems and processes which have been introduced this term. These systems have ensured that we are able to keep our children, staff and families safe and ensure that the school day runs smoothly. Below you will find a few updates, reminders and announcements.

Have a lovely weekend!

L. Garside

Miss Garside
Executive Head



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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE



Friends of Thurlestone School

We would like to say a big thank you to our FTS for taking the time to rally up volunteers from some of our families and members of the local community to weed and tidy the front entrance area to the school. We all greatly appreciate the time that you have selflessly given to make sure our school looks its best for the children.

New Reception Children

We are delighted to welcome 10 new little smiling faces into Yarmer this week as they begin their primary school journey. Miss Kingston has had a wonderful week with them, getting to know them and making special memories during their very first week at 'big school'. Their start to school has been very different to those in previous years, but we have all been blown away by how seamlessly they have adapted to life in and around the academy in our new world of bubbles. We cannot wait to see them grow, learn and develop over the coming days, weeks, months and years here at All Saints' Thurlestone.

New Families

As well as our new Reception children who have joined the school, we also welcomed a number of new families with children in other year groups to All Saints' Thurlestone this week. The children have all settled in beautifully to their new classes and been welcomed warmly by their classmates. We hope that they all love their time here at All Saints' Thurlestone.

Drop Off and Collection Procedures

Thank you to everyone who has followed the new arrangements for drop offs and collections. We were pleased that the children were all able to find their way to their new classrooms! Please could you ensure that you are prompt for your drop off and collection time to ensure that we are able to maintain social distancing. This includes not allowing children to use the climbing frame on the playground at the end of the day, please leave the playground swiftly. Thank you for your cooperation with this and supporting us to keep our children, staff and families safe.

Change to Butter Cove Collection Procedure

Next week the drop off will remain the same for the Butter Cove children, they will enter their class through their own door in the mornings. However, we would like to make a tweak to the collection arrangements. From Monday, Butter Cove will make their way to the far side of the playground with Sedgewell Cove and Bantham. Parents will enter through the side gate and collect children from the playground before leaving by the gate at the bottom of the playground. This should be a more efficient end of the day for all.

Parking

With so many new families joining us this year, we felt it would be an appropriate time to remind parents of the parking arrangements at either end of the day. For parents of children in Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2), please use the Parish Hall car park. For parents of children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) please park on Court Park Road and use the cut through to the school. We would appreciate it if you did not park on Sea View Terrace or any of the smaller roads, lanes and private parking spaces where you may block driveways or access to local residents or through the village. Please try and arrive/depart from these



areas promptly and considerately as this will ease any issues for other parents who are dropping / picking children up at a later time.

School Lunch Arrangements

Thank you to all our families who are using the new pre ordering service for school lunches. Please remember to book by 11.59pm the night before if your child would like lunch for the following day. If you are having any difficulties with the system or can't login, please contact the academy off by email thurlestone@lapsw.org.

PE and Forest & Beach School

This year we will continue to work in partnership with Spires Academy to provide specialist PE teachers who work alongside class teachers to provide high quality PE teaching and learning.

All classes will have PE each Thursday and one other day which will be announced on the class newsletter. Children should bring their PE kit in on their PE day and it will return home at the end of the day.

We will be continuing with Forest & Beach School this year and this will continue to be on a Tuesday. We are currently working on the rota for each class, and we will share this with you in the next couple of weeks.

Water Bottles

Please supply your child with a named water bottle each day. This is to reduce the need for sterilising plastic cups in school. Children who do not have a water bottle will be provided with a reusable one in school. It is important that the children are able to keep safely hydrated throughout the day.

COVID-19

Thank you for bearing with us this week as we continue to adapt ourselves and the children to our new way of working as a school. We as a school recognise that there is a lot of information continuing to be published with regards to guidance for coronavirus. As you are aware, this guidance is constantly being updated and we will do our best as a school to keep you up to date with the changes. As it stands, the guidance advises that you do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school or college if:

- they are showing [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- someone in their household is showing symptoms.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection, which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus. The current government guidance advises that we do not close a bubble unless there is a positive test and this decision would be made in conjunction with the local Health Protection Team.



'Any members of staff who have helped someone with symptoms and any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace.'

Bubbles

Some parents have asked about the bubbles which the children are in. We have grouped the children into two bubbles EYFS/KS1 (including Nursery) and KS2. By keeping children in two bubbles, this allows us to reduce the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other whilst also allowing us to deliver a full curriculum as the government requires. ***'Schools must do everything possible to minimise contacts and mixing while delivering a broad and balanced curriculum'***.

The children spend the large majority of time in their classrooms and only mix in between classes in these bubbles at break and lunchtimes.

Current government guidance allows staff to move between bubbles as long as good hand hygiene is carried out and social distancing where possible.