



Harvey Road School News

Newsletter 1

4th September 2020

Welcome back!

It is fantastic to be back in school! As a colleague said to me yesterday, it's just so great to see every classroom full and hear the general chatter of school life through the corridors again. The children have returned with smiles on their faces and an enthusiasm for their learning and this is credit to their resilience and the support you have given them in preparing for their return. Our new nursery and reception children have attended their stay and play session, looking very smart in their new uniforms and we look forward to them formally starting school next week.

Our school routines have changed a lot around the school but I am reassured that school feels very much the same. Thank you for taking time to read the Return to School plan and following the guidelines we have adopted. There will be further changes to our practices as we find out what is working and what is not. A couple of small changes have been made today which I will outline later in the newsletter.

Despite the restrictions and social distancing measures, teachers, the office staff and myself are all available if you have any questions or queries about this term or concerns about your child. Appointments can be booked through the school office or by catching the teacher on the playground. Mrs Shillibeer, our SENCO, is also available to meet with parents on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Changes to Return to School Plan

We are making some small changes to the staggered lunchtime timings to try and help mealtimes run more smoothly.

Miss Tustin has created a rota for the outdoor play equipment on the Key Stage 1 playground so that the children can still access the climbing wall, music garden, pirate ship. Could I please ask that children or their siblings do not play on any of the equipment at drop off or pick up so that it is kept solely for the bubbles on the rota. Thank you.

Finally, from today each class will have their own toilet and although it will be unisex, only one child will be allowed in the room at a time.

At this early stage, I think the staggered starts and ends to the day and walking in and out of the Harvey Road entrance seems to be working well but I would encourage you to remain 2m apart from one another.

I would like to say a huge thank you for the many positive comments that you have emailed to the school. They have been very much appreciated.

If you have any comments or feedback on the plan please contact the school office.

School dinners

We have now started with our new caterers, Harrisons. Inevitably there have and will continue to be some issues to iron out but the key to the new system is that all meals are pre-ordered at least 7 days in advance via the Parentmail app or website. If you do not order a meal for your child, we will call you to provide a packed lunch. If you are not sure about the ordering process, please contact Mrs Allen in the office, who works afternoons and she will help you.

Once you have placed your order, no changes can be made unless your child is off sick in which case the money will be put back on your account. It is also not possible for your child to change their mind at the hatch so please do involve them in choosing what meal they want and for the younger child it would be helpful to remind them of this each morning.

Packed lunches

We work very hard to raise the awareness of healthy eating in the school. For this reason I would like to remind you of our guidelines for the contents of a child's packed lunch.

Some examples of the kinds of things that could be in a packed lunch are:

sandwiches/rolls/wraps, a piece of fresh fruit, yoghurt, cheese, cold meats, cereal bar, dried fruit, water or fruit juice.

- It will be assumed that only food that your child likes will be included and that the amount sent in is what parents expect should be eaten.
- Sweets and chocolate should **NOT** be included in packed lunches or snacks since we encourage a healthy eating approach within the school. This includes chocolate bars, chocolate covered biscuits, chocolate cake and chocolate spread in sandwiches.
- **As we have children with nut allergies we are a nut free school. Consequently, please do not include peanut butter sandwiches, nutella sandwiches or any nuts in the packed lunch.**
- All food must be suitably wrapped and placed in a named lunch box.
- Drinks may be brought in cartons or named plastic bottles. A beaker of water will be available for children who do not bring their own drink. Cans, fizzy drinks, glass bottles and chocolate based drinks should NOT be brought in.
- Please cut all sandwiches into suitably sized pieces, preferably 'quarters' rather than 'halves' for our youngest children.
- Spoons will need to be provided for yoghurts etc.
- Lunchtime staff will encourage children to finish their packed lunches. If this proves difficult and there is a significant amount of food left, then they will inform teachers who will in turn notify you.

- All empty cartons, wrappings and any uneaten food will be replaced in their lunch boxes and be taken home. This ensures that you can monitor what your child is and is not eating.

Curriculum information

Next week, you will receive details outlining the curriculum that your child's class will be following this term.

Annual safeguarding statement

Harvey Road School takes safeguarding of children very seriously. If we have any concerns about a child, we will always act on it in accordance with our Child Protection Policy. This may or may not include speaking with parents depending on the nature of the concern. Our updated policy is due to be signed off by governors next week and will be on our website for you to see.

Return of school books

Miss Tustin would be very grateful if all school books could be returned at the start of next week. This includes reading books, library books and class books. Please ask your child have a hunt around the house for these as you may have had them at home since March and to hand them to their class teacher.

Finally....

Class 6 have been producing some art work to reflect their experiences during lockdown. They have all been thoughtful, considered pieces of work and I though you would enjoy seeing two of them.

Kind regards
N Rowlands
Headteacher

