



News from Cumnor School

Autumn Term Number 1

2nd September 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a good summer break. I am sure everyone is now looking forward to the start of term and it will be lovely to see you all again on Friday. Our staff have all remained well and Mr Cooke's toe operation has gone well. He will require one more week of recuperation before he is signed off as fit to return to work. Mrs Delacovias has agreed to teach the Year 3 class full time until his return.

The latest government guidance regarding school opening suggests that most aspects of school life should now be returning to the way we were working, pre-Covid. We have kept this in mind and are hoping that the term will be fairly normal one.

Factors in the government guidance you should be aware of are;

- There will be no more class bubbles – children and adults are now free to mix between classes.
- Whole school gatherings such as assemblies are permitted.
- Face coverings are no longer required.
- Children and staff who come into contact with Covid cases are no longer required to self-isolate.

We are still concerned about the transmission of Covid amongst the children, who remain unvaccinated, and amongst our vulnerable staff, so we will maintain many of the covid risk management measures we had put in place previously, where they don't impact on the learning and experiences of the children.

Some of these key measures include:

- All children and staff will continue to sanitize / wash their hands when coming into school and at regular intervals during the day.
- Targeted cleaning will cover key contact areas.
- Assemblies and other events will be held in key stages or classes.
- All children will go out to play at the same time. In Key Stage 2, two classes will be on the field and two classes on the playground.
- Key Stage 1 children will have their lunch in their classes and Key Stage 2 children will eat in two sittings in the hall.
- Children will continue to use the external classroom doors at the start and the end of the day.
- If a child has Covid symptoms they will still be expected to stay at home until a PCR test is returned negative, or for 10 days of self-isolation.

So, as an update for the start of term:

- Children should arrive from 8.35am and be in school for an 8.50am start. School will finish at 3.10pm.
- School uniform should still consist of dark coloured (grey, black, navy) skirts or trousers and a white top under the school logoed sweatshirt. We have found it particularly helpful for the children to wear clothing that they can do a limited amount of PE in.
- Shoes should still be dark in colour, but can be trainers or substantial school shoes.

- Face masks are no longer necessary on the school grounds, and although we do not need to strictly observe a one-way system, it would still be logical to follow this in order to avoid congestion around the gates.
- We would still prefer it if you avoided coming into the school building, but please do email, phone or arrange a video call if you would like to talk with us. If you need to speak with the class teacher in the morning or at the end of the day then please do so, but this will be outside unless of a particularly private or sensitive nature.

There will be no school newsletter from me tomorrow, but we hope to send out a class newsletter instead.

Thank you for your continuing support, as always, if you have any questions, do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Read". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Ed Read