



4th December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

- I hope you who have been able to meet with your child's teacher via Google Meet or speak with them about your child's progress this term. We are not sure how our meetings will take place next term but please could you keep us informed of any changes in your contact details including email addresses so that the meetings can run smoothly if they need to be virtual.
- As we approach the end of term we would usually have lots of festive activities taking place but unfortunately, due to the ongoing pandemic, these will not be able to take place. We will however still be having a Christmas lunch on Thursday 10th December which you have already received information about. To make the day feel more celebratory for the children they will be allowed to wear a Christmas jumper which they should arrive wearing in the morning and will wear all day.
- We will also be holding Christmas parties at the end of term on 15th December. On this day the children may come to school in party clothes but these should be clothes that are suitable for a day at school as there will be normal lessons in the morning. Children should not bring clothes to school to change into.
- Unfortunately, we will not be able to distribute Christmas cards for the children this year but your child may receive a card from their teacher. This is to limit the possible transfer of Covid-19 from one child or household to another.
- Please note that as in previous years, the children will be finishing early on the last day of term. Please see the table below for the times for your child.

YEAR GROUP	START TIME	FINISH TIME	FRIDAY 18 th DECEMBER
Reception	9.20am	3.00pm	1.10pm
Year 1	9.00am	3.10pm	1.20pm
Year 2	9.10am	3.20pm	1.30pm
Year 3	9.10am	3.20pm	1.30pm
Year 4	9.00am	3.30pm	1.40pm
Year 5	8.45am	3.30pm	1.40pm
Year 6	8.45am	3.30pm	1.40pm

- If you are coming to the Orchard Road gate and are bringing children to the Nursery, please remember that you should be arriving for the children to start at 8.45 in the morning. If you are later than this, you will need to walk around the building and access the nursery from the main playground with other families. This is because we cannot have adults and children walking against the flow of parents leaving the site. I would ask you all to respect this request and not argue with staff who are at the gate as they have to consider the safety of all adults and children.
- Please be punctual - especially as the weather is becoming colder and wetter.
- Please leave the site immediately. Do not wait to watch your child walk across the playground in the morning. This is particularly important now as there is less time between groups of children coming into school and we still need to ensure that there is no congestion at the gate and along the paths onto and off the site,
- **Only one parent/ adult** per family will be permitted onto the site. If older siblings are coming to collect, they should not bring other friends onto the school site with them.
- If you have more than one child, please remember to drop them all off in the morning with the **earliest child** and pick up with the **youngest child**. We are trying to encourage children in Year 5 and Year 6 to stay until 3.30pm even if they have younger siblings.
- We are still trying to encourage as many children as possible to have a school meal at lunchtime rather than bringing in a packed lunch from home. We are finding that packed lunch boxes and bags are taking up much needed space in the classrooms at the moment and are a hazard. We are also trying to reduce the number of things children bring in from home as an additional safety measure. This is particularly important with the current rise in Covid-19 cases both locally and nationally.
- Remember that if **your child does have any of the Covid-19 symptoms they should self-isolate for 10 days** and the other members of your household should isolate for 14 days.
- It is very important that you inform us if your child has any of the covid-19 symptoms and will be self-isolating. The symptoms to particularly look out for are:
 - **a high temperature,**
 - **a new continuous cough,**
 - **loss of sense of taste or smell**

If we ask you to collect your child from school because they have symptoms:

- they should isolate for 10 days.
- You should arrange a test for your child either by **ordering a home test kit or by booking an appointment and going to a testing centre.**
- If the result of the test is negative and you are happy to share the result with us, your child can come back to school if they are well enough to do so.
- If you do not feel able to share the result with us it is important that your child completes the self-isolation for 10 days and does not return before. This is to keep the rest of the school community safe and reduce the risk of spread.

If your child is self-isolating, work will be sent home for them to complete. The Year Lead or your child's teacher will send you a letter with the relevant information and login details for DB Primary.

- Please remember to wear a face covering when you come onto the site. Unless you are exempt from wearing a mask and can show this with the relevant evidence card this is an expectation for all parents and carers coming onto the site.
- Children who come to school wearing a reusable mask should have a small sealable plastic bag to put it in when they take it off. Temporary face coverings should be disposed of in the bin on arrival.
- Please do not allow your child to ride scooters or bikes when they are on the school site. This to protect your child and other children and adults on the site from accidents.
- **Social distancing is really important** as part of all our efforts to reduce the spread of Covid-19, along with good hygiene and wearing face coverings. Please do not gather in the playground or at the gates to speak with other parents. You should all be adhering to social distancing guidance with staff, children and parents **at all times** including when walking along the paths on the school site.

Thank you for your continued understanding, support and cooperation.

Christine Haslam
Headteacher