Ardeley St Lawrence C of E Primary School

**Newsletter**

4th September 2020

Dear Parents

**Welcome…**

Welcome back! I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer holiday, despite the extremes of weather and strange situation. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families and I hope that you will have a long and happy association with the school. All the children have really benefited from their transition day this week and are raring to go next week! All of our COVID systems and processes remain unchanged as they have worked successfully to keep the children and staff as safe as possible.   
   
We have had a huge amount of work done in school over the holidays – the flat roof has been replaced, we have a new electrical circuit board, we have new Chromebooks in school, all rooms have been deep cleaned and we have new astro turf throughout the whole of the EYFS outside area. The school looks great!

Thank you all for ensuring that the children look so smart in their fresh uniforms. Please remember to name everything if you haven’t already done so! Please send inhalers back in to school, labelled clearly with your child’s name. May I remind all parents that this is a **nut free school**. We do have children with serious nut allergies and so there can be absolutely no products containing nuts brought in to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Staggered arrival and drop off…**

We are running a staggered arrival in the mornings **between 8.45 and 9.10am. PLEASE** use all of this time so that we can keep the traffic flowing smoothly. Teachers are aware of the staggered start and the children will not miss any teaching at this time; children have settling in and fluency activities to do. If there is too much congestion with this system we may have to allocate arrival times which we are trying to avoid, as this can be more difficult for you as parents.  
A reminder that the ‘queue’ for drop off should start no earlier than 8.40am. If you arrive earlier than this, please park up and wait as otherwise we block the road access for residents.

At pick up time please park considerately and safely. It is illegal to park on the yellow chevrons outside the school – they are there to protect your children. Please do not park on bends or block residents’ driveways. There are several places around Ardeley that you can park (such as by the church) and walk to collect your children – this will ease congestion. Collection is between 3.00 & 3.20pm, so again there is plenty of time.

**Wrap around care…**

Our After School Club is currently full with children who have pre-booked places. We do have a few spaces, on some days, for our Breakfast Club; Mrs Randall has joined our team and will be running Breakfast Club two days a week.

**Forms and Funding…**

We will send out our various data collection forms soon. Please do ensure these are returned – we need to be able to contact you in the event of an emergency.   
  
Please do also register for the Universal or Free School Meals. I cannot stress highly enough the difference this additional funding makes to the children. If you have not yet registered it is quick and easy and it may be worth checking if your circumstances have changed since last year.

Just go to: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

**Events…**

All of our events are currently ‘to be confirmed’, because of the Covid restrictions. I will be discussing with staff and governors, as well as the FAS (Friends of Ardeley), how we can plan events that will keep everyone as safe as possible and still ensure we have a thriving and exciting curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

**PE & Forest Schools…**

Next week sees the start of our PE and Forest School provision for Years 1 to 6.   
Forest School sessions will be on a Tuesday and PE will be on a Thursday and most children will have these on alternate weeks (week A & week B).   
**We would like children to come to school in their warm, older clothes on their forest school session days and in full PE kit on PE days (including jogging bottoms/fleece).** This will reduce the amount of children moving around corridors and classrooms.   
Please remember the children will be outside in virtually all weathers so **layers are essential**. Wellington boots and waterproof jackets can be left in school.

EYFS have their own provision and Miss Fry will let you know further details when everyone is settled in.

The next two weeks are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week A** – 7th to 11th September | | | |
| Tuesday – Forest School Session | | Thursday - PE | |
| UKS2 (1 hr) | KS1 | LKS2 | UKS2 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week B** – 14th – 18th September | | | |
| Tuesday – Forest School Session | | Thursday - PE | |
| UKS2 (1 hr) | LKS2 | KS1 | EYFS (tbc) |

**Lunches…**

Over the next two weeks’ children will continue to have packed lunches from the special packed lunch menu I shared with you before the Summer Break. After that we will start to take a Key Stage down each day, on alternate days, to get the children used to the hall and the new restrictions in place. We will work towards starting our usual 2 sittings each day in about a month (subject to any new restrictions).

A reminder that all the information you may need is on the website: <https://www.ardeley.herts.sch.uk/parents-info/covid-19-information-for-parents>

Thank you for continuing to work with us as we all adapt to the ‘new normal’; the children have really taken everything in their stride and it has been an absolute pleasure to hear them around school again, chatting, learning and having fun.

With kind regards

Mrs Connolly

 **Autumn Diary Dates** 

**To Be Confirmed (TBC)**

Monday 21September Outside Harvest Service - TBC

Tuesday 6 October Celtic Harmony Trip – TBC

Tuesday 20 October School Photos - TBC

Tuesday 20 October Parent Consultations - TBC

Wednesday 21 October Parent Consultations - TBC

Friday 23 October INSET day

25 October – 30 October Half Term