



Twyford C of E School

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Dear Parents

Welcome Back

It has been so lovely to see so many of our children and families once again as we begin our new term in school, especially because it has such a long time since we were all last together. It is such a delight to see children back in school, socialising with their friends and learning in classrooms. From our point of view, the first couple of days back have gone according to plan. In some ways, it has been better than expected with almost every child showing excitement and positivity about being back, with very few tears or separation worries. I am sure that many of you have spent a long time talking positively about school and reassuring your children; thank you, this has made difference.

Next week we will begin to welcome our reception and nursery children back to school and help them settle into their new routines.

Thank you for your support with our new procedures and routines, I understand that it is different to what we are all used to but I am sure it won't be long before we are all in the swing of our 'new normal'. There are just a couple of things that I would like to remind you about:

- Please do not send your child to school with a rucksack; due to the location and size of our cloakrooms, we are unable to accommodate bags in these areas. Instead, your child can bring in a book bag or carrier bag that will need to fit inside their tray.
- It is also important that your child brings a water bottle (with water inside, not juice) for them to drink from throughout the day. We will not be providing cups or beakers for them to drink from.

Uniform Orders

Just an update for those of you who are patiently waiting for uniform items you have ordered. If you ordered uniform before the summer holidays we have just received the delivery this morning and are sorting through the orders, ready to give to you. If you have not yet paid for your order, please can you make payment so that we can then give your items to you. However, upon opening the delivery there are some items that are missing (mostly book bags, PE shorts and knitted school jumpers for Year 5 and Year 6). We have been in touch with the suppliers and they are looking to rectify this as soon as possible. We will forward these outstanding items to you as soon as they arrive in school. If you still need to order any items, we will be placing another order next week – please return your order forms to school by **Wednesday 9th September** at the latest.

Exciting News

Over the summer holidays there have been several updates within school that will really enhance the provision we are able to offer to our children. One of the biggest changes is the refurbishment of our Early Years classrooms. The whole area was stripped and prepared at the beginning of the summer holidays in preparation for the transformation. New flooring and sinks have been installed along with a fresh coat of paint. A delivery of new furniture for the area was excitedly received by the teachers and it looks fantastic set up in the classrooms. We are really looking forward to seeing our nursery and reception children exploring and using the new environment.



We have also invested in updating the IT equipment which the children use. Previously we had desktops located in a 'computer room' that the children would go to for their lessons. During the summer holidays we have installed a set of thirty Chromebooks and purchased two charging trolleys for them to be stored in and allow safe movement of them around school. Many thanks to FOTS for purchasing one of these trolleys for us. The use of Chromebooks will allow a greater flexibility in the use of IT to support curriculum learning within the classroom because of how portable they are. As part of this set up, we will be teaching the children how to use the suite of Google apps available on the Chromebooks. Moving forward we are looking to integrate the use of these apps when setting homework or for any future home learning that may need to take place. This is a wonderful asset to our school and will help support our pupils in their next stage of their education as both the Buckingham School and the Royal Latin School use Chromebooks to support teaching and learning in all subjects.

Finally, following a wonderful couple of years of fundraising efforts by FOTS we were able to order a replacement for our much loved but worn out trim trail. Via the school council, the children voted for what they wanted to replace it and next week, starting on Monday 7th September, the installation of the new clamber sticks will take place.

Class Curriculum Newsletters

Flying into your email inbox soon will be a curriculum newsletter from your child's teacher with some information about the coming term specific to their class. The newsletters for Year 2 – 6 should arrive later today. A letter for Year 1 and Reception will be sent next week. Please take the time to read the information in the letters and get in touch if you have any questions.

School Meals

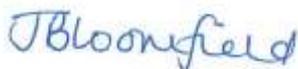
We have decided to extend the provision of a packed lunch option for school meals from our provider (Chartwells Catering) until the October half term. An order form for the remaining weeks up until that date will be emailed for you to complete should you wish your child to have a meal option at school. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 the meal is funded via the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme. Please note that school meals need to be ordered by the Tuesday for the following week.

A little bit of help please...

We are very fortunate that we have spacious school grounds but some of our garden areas have become very overgrown during lockdown and the summer holidays. They are in desperate need of some work to get them cut back and tidied up. If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please get in touch with the office. We are looking for no more than 6 adults to help during the morning of Saturday 3rd October, weather permitting. Due to COVID-19 precautions this will only be for adults, children will unfortunately not be able to join in.

Also, the lovely buddy bench that given as a gift by parents to mark the retirement of Judith Foster is in need of a bit of TLC. The paint is peeling away so we are looking for someone who would be willing to take the bench away for a short while to strip it back and retreat it (varnish will be provided). If you are able to do this, or know someone who is, please get in touch with us.

With warm wishes



JUDITH BLOOMFIELD
Headteacher

Our school Christian vision: "I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11