



Soar



Share



Strive



Sparkle

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Friday 28th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing as the half term break begins to wish you and your families a wonderful and hopefully relaxing time. We have had a wonderful first half to our summer term and once again the children have been truly incredible. You should feel extremely proud of them and all you have done to support them.

We are currently awaiting guidance on whether we will be able to open the school up a little more in the last few weeks of next half term (after June 21st) It is looking at present like the guidance may be that we have to continue following our COVID restrictions until the end of the summer term but we are ever hopeful that we will be able to hold all of end of year events such as sports day and leavers assemblies, even if some have to remain virtual. At present, the guidance is that we must continue to work in our class bubbles and to adhere to our COVID risk assessment for the return to school after half term.

We will continue to work with the guidance that has been shared and when further guidance is received we will make changes if we are able to. Therefore we will continue to adhere to the following guidance after half term:

We will be welcoming all children back into school from Monday 7th June 2021.

Children in our EYFS through to Year 5 classes will continue to work in class bubbles of no more than 30 children and will be taught and supported by their class teacher and teaching partner. Our Year 6 classes will form a Year group bubble after half term so that they can work on their leavers play and enjoy their activities week together.

School drop offs and pick ups will continue to be staggered so that we can minimise the crossing of bubbles as best we can. We will continue to meet the children and release them from the main school gate. Please could we ask that you try and walk to school if possible and approach the school from the shop/ vet end of Columbine Road. Please could only one parent drop off/ pick up your child/ ren and please could you wait on the yellow line markings along the pavement. Thank you to all the parents who have expressed how much they prefer this arrangement. We are pleased that it has worked so well in these circumstances.

Timings for drop off and pick-ups will be as follows:

Year Group	Start Time	Finish Time
Finches/ Hummingbirds	8:30 am	3:00 pm
Robins/ Nightingales	8:40 am	3:10 pm
Woodpeckers/ Kingfishers	8:50 am	3:20 pm
Kestrels	8:55 am	3:25 pm
Hérons/ Owls	9:00 am	3:30 pm

Siblings should continue to be dropped at the earliest drop off time but at pick up we ask that you pick them up at the time that your oldest child would be leaving. We will keep younger siblings safely with us until the later time. This is so that the older children don't miss valuable learning time and so that we can minimise congestion at the school gate.

Your child can bring in a snack each day in a snack pot that can be washed daily. Please remember that we only encourage fruit, cheese or crackers/ plain rice cakes as snack options.

Please also send your child to school with a named water bottle (containing water) and a coat. If the weather is forecast to be sunny, please could you apply a once a day sun cream and send your child with a hat.

Please can the children come back to school wearing full school uniform. They can continue to come into school in their PE and Forest school kit for PE and Forest school sessions. Your class teacher will advise you about which days they will need their kit in school.

Break and lunch times will continue to be staggered and the children will only eat and play with the children in their bubble (class).

All enhanced cleaning and protective measures will remain in place. All staff and parents will continue to ensure that the school is informed of any illness or identification of COVID-19 symptoms, ensuring that self-isolation protocols are followed. Preventative measures will continue, immediate response to any infection protocol will continue as will the engagement with the NHS Test and Trace system. All staff in school will continue to undertake a lateral flow test twice per week.

The children will continue to be able to bring a bag into school. For Reception and Key Stage 1 children, this should be their school book bag. For Key Stage 2 children, this can be a suitable (not oversized) school bag of their choice. All children will be provided with their own stationary/ resources to ensure the reduction of the risk of transmission of any virus through the use of shared resources.

Over the half term break we ask that all of families support us by continuing to adhere to social distancing measures as much as possible. We know that many of you will be the making the most of the opportunities to see family, take holidays and to spend time with friends. As a school community, we have done so well to keep going and to keep our whole community safe. Please can we remain vigilant to help to ensure that we can continue to keep everyone safe.

On a final note, I would like to share the wonderful news that Mrs Thomas our EYFS leader and Hummingbird class teacher is expecting her first child in November. We are all delighted for her and the children in Hummingbird class are already busy playing at doctors and nurses to care for her!

Once again, thank you for all you are and have been doing. Thank you for the never ending support that you show our staff team and thank you showing your children our Soar, Share, Strive and Sparkle values and for helping them to continue to flourish.

Have a wonderful break and we look forward to hearing lots of stories and seeing all their smiling faces on June 7th.

Stay well and stay safe!

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ruth Laing'.

Mrs Ruth Laing
Headteacher