



18th September 2020

Important updates

I hope you have all enjoyed the first few weeks of the new term. Thank you to you all for your patience and understanding as the systems we have put in place to keep everyone safe continue to evolve.

We are pleased to have welcomed 16 new children to Barn Owls Class this year. It has been great to see two new children join us in Golden Eagles Class - Ruby in Year 5 and Katrina to Year 6. We are also thrilled to have welcomed Mrs Lyall back from maternity leave.

Please rest assured that we are following the government guidance when making any decision about the safety of everyone at school. Some important points have come up this week:

1. If your child or someone in your household has any one of the three symptoms associated with Covid-19, the whole household must self-isolate, be tested and await a test result. If the test result is negative, the child can return to school as soon as they feel well enough.
2. If you or someone in your family is identified by track and trace as having been in close contact with a confirmed case, it is just the person who is a direct contact that must self-isolate. For example, if a parent has been in direct contact with a confirmed case they must self-isolate, however the children must continue to attend school as long as they are not direct contacts of the confirmed case.
3. Thank you to everyone for maintaining a 2 metre distance from others at the school gates. This enables us to do our bit to keep rates as low as possible in the area and reduces the likelihood of school having to close once again.
4. We are currently working on our approach to home schooling should a lockdown require school to close once again or should a bubble need to close for a period of time. This will be shared with you as soon as it is ready.

The school relies heavily upon the openness and honesty of parents regarding these matters. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is that parents let the school know any information related to their own health or the health of their child as this is how we will keep everyone safe.

The NHS has a useful website which may help you to make the right decision as to whether your child is well enough to attend school or not: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

I will continue to keep you updated with any further important updates.

Mike Riches

Curriculum

You may have noticed that we have embarked upon a new approach to delivering the curriculum to the children in Years 1 - 6. We hope to provide you with more information about this later in the term through an information session (details to be confirmed) and an opportunity for children to showcase their learning.

The approach is enquiry based and stimulates thinking in response to an important question. It is also based upon states of being, e.g. children being mathematicians or artists. The curriculum is clearly planned and encompasses many areas of the national curriculum. Importantly, it is bespoke to our school and provides opportunities for children to learn about their local community.

We are yet to decide the way in which we share this with you. Unfortunately, we will not be able to invite anyone into school for the information session as we usually would but instead will either look to share this through a pre-recorded video or live through Microsoft Teams.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Both of these services are now up and running and ready for use by any children across the school when needed. If you need any information or if you need to register your child please contact the school office.

Please find attached to this newsletter a flyer for After School Club.

Primary and Secondary Admissions

The website for both primary and secondary admissions is now open. If you have a child who is due to start Reception in September 2021 please do log on and apply to come and join us. We are carrying out short individual tours of the outside of the school for those who are interested in applying and we ask that prospective parents wear a face covering. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2021.

All the information you need in order to apply can be found using the following link: <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family>

If your child is due to begin secondary school in September 2021, the deadline for applications is 31st October 2020.

<https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=I2VIUICdFLs>

Harvest service

This year's Harvest service will take place on Thursday 8th October. Unfortunately, we will not be able to invite families to join us in the church this year. Our current plan is for each bubble to sit in separate parts of the church and for the service to be recorded then shared with families afterwards.

We will be supporting the Yate and Chipping Sodbury Foodbank once again this year. The foodbank has requested the following items:

Deodorant, shampoo, rice pudding, custard, washing up liquid, sponge pudding, tinned fruit.

These items will be collected in classrooms on the morning of Thursday 8th October.

INSET day

Please note: our next INSET day will take place on Friday 9th October. School will be closed to all children that day.

Parking

We encourage as many families as possible to walk / cycle / scoot to school but we recognise that this is not possible for all.

The owners of The Lamb Inn are happy for parents to use the car park for morning drop off and afternoon pick up each day but we would like to remind anyone who uses the car park that they do so at their own risk.

The road directly outside school can get busy so there is usually space in Holly Hill Road which is the left turn further down the hill to the right of school. You can also use the Parish Hall car park for short stops.

Healthy snacks

Children must only bring a healthy snack to school for their morning break. The recommended snacks are a piece of fruit or a plain biscuit. Alternatively, children are able to purchase a piece of toast (or 2 for children in KS2) from the kitchen. We are unable to allow any unhealthy snacks such as crisps, chocolate and doughnuts.

Village noticeboard

Thank you to all children who contributed towards the art work on the noticeboard on Frampton End Lane at the far end of the village. Miss Abley and Mrs Bush have arranged this now and we are amazed at the quality of the finished product:

