

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S
C of E Primary School

Dear Families,

25.02.21

Welcome back. Following the Prime Minister's announcement this week, we are very much looking forward to having Whinmoor St. Paul's filled with the sound of all our children playing, chatting and so important to us, learning together from Monday 8th March, when it has been announced that schools can fully reopen. The spring term has certainly brought many challenges and we hope and pray that, as we edge towards Easter and the world opens up again, we can enjoy calmer times.

Over this week, our phone calls to families have taken the place of our consultation meetings. It has been lovely discussing the progress that the children have made over this term - thank you for your support and the positive feedback on our remote learning package. We are so pleased at the level of engagement we have had from our children. This will really support them in getting back on track when we fully reopen. Until such time, please contact your child's teacher via the class email if you have any other queries or concerns.

World Book Day

This year, World Book Day takes place on Thursday 4th March. The theme is 'Don't judge a book by its cover.' We have lots of ideas to celebrate reading and story-telling. If children wish to dress up they can, but we don't want families spending money on costumes at this difficult time - we thought children may enjoy making a 'book den' at home or school, where they can enjoy reading their books. Or perhaps turning a potato into a character from their chosen book. Or putting on PJs earlier in the evening and enjoying an extended story time, rather than screen time. We have lots of other lovely ideas, which teachers will share with families via the class emails. We very much look forward to celebrating reading in a variety of ways.

Reminders:

Punctuality

As we plan for the return of all of our children, please remember the importance of the children coming to school on time. Staggered starts, in line with our risk assessment, will continue into the spring term. When children are brought to school late, it impacts negatively not only on their own learning, but on the learning of others, as it can disturb the rest of the class who will have commenced their learning for the day. It also impacts negatively on those families bringing children into school at different times. The idea of the staggered start is to minimise the number of parents outside and children in cloakrooms at any one time. We ask for your support in getting to school on time.



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Reminder – Staggered Starts:

From 8th March, we ask that children come into school at the following times and from the named gates and entrances. We ask that families arrive no more than 5 minutes early and please leave as soon as we have welcomed the children into school. As we are putting in place staggered starts to avoid too many people gathering together, it is imperative families are on time and adhere to the rules.

Class	Start time and Location	Finish time and location
Nursery	9.00 Nursery door Use front gate	3.00 Nursery door Use front gate
Reception	8.50 Cloakroom door Use front Gate	3.20 Cloakroom door Use front Gate
Year 1	8.40 KS1 playground Use front Gate	3.10 KS1 playground Use front Gate
Year 2	8.50 Quad Use back Gate	3.20 Quad Use back Gate
Year 3	8.40 Quad Use back Gate	3.10 Quad Use back Gate
Year 4	8.50 KS2 playground Use back Gate	3.20 KS2 Playground Use back Gate
Year 5	8.40 KS2 playground Use back Gate	3.10 KS2 Playground Use back Gate
Year 6	8.30 KS2 playground Use back Gate	3.00 KS2 Playground Use back Gate

Uniform

We are proud of our children and their uniform identifies them as belonging to Whinmoor St. Paul's community and supports us in continuing to raise expectations and standards. Our full uniform list can be found on our website or email us at our Office address and we will send you one. We particularly ask you to support us on the following:

- school shoes – sensible black shoes, not trainers
- Jewellery - On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exception to this rule is plain ear-ring studs in pierced ears. On any days that a child is participating in PE, games, swimming and other physical activities it is advisable to leave earrings at home
- Nail varnish is not permitted nor are 'extreme' haircuts, non-natural hair colours, patterns in hair or large hair 'decorations' such as patterned bows, clips etc. Please keep to simple bobbles, head bands, in school colours.

On PE days, children can wear their PE kits, to avoid changing at this time. Please see our website for a full list of what can be worn. The PE kit is low cost and easily maintained and we ask your support in making sure the children's PE kit is treated as part of the school uniform expectations – please keep to the correct colours, no large labels, slogans etc. Thank you.



Golden Rules

We continue to ask all our children to respect the six Golden Rules of our School and ask that you remind the children about these:

- **We are gentle** (we don't hurt others)
- **We are kind and helpful** (we don't hurt anybody's feelings)
- **We listen** (we don't interrupt)
- **We are honest** (We don't cover up the truth)
- **We work hard** (We don't waste our own or others' time)
- **We look after our property** (We don't waste or damage things)

Prior to lockdown, we discussed the following behaviour expectations with our children, at an age appropriate level. *These are part of our response to keeping our community safe.* We ask that you spend time discussing these with your child prior to our full school reopening on March 8th:

- Children will wash their hands with soap and water and use hand gel at regular intervals, as requested
- Children will remain in the class or group, as requested by staff, at all times
- Children are expected to use tissues and to cover their mouths when sneezing and coughing and then to wash their hands.
- Children will be reminded to keep their resources to themselves as far as possible
- Children will be guided to different zones of the playground and will follow instructions given by the adult in charge
- Children will be rewarded for following new guidelines, in line with the behaviour policy (praise, stamps)
- Children who do not comply with the expectations around Covid-19 safeguarding will be dealt with in line with school policy
- Children who intentionally cough or spit at others will be dealt with in line with the behaviour policy, parents or carers will be informed and the child can be sent home

We will continue to do all we can to keep your children safe and well and ask for your support in quickly entering and leaving the school grounds, respecting the exclusion zones around our classes and social distancing from other parents and carers. As reiterated in the autumn term. It is fine for children to bring their WSP Book Bag. We do ask you **not** to send your child with large bags which are difficult to store or hang on pegs – this will support us keeping our school safe at this time. We also ask adults to wear a face covering on the school run and dispose of it away from school.

If we are concerned that your child is unwell, we will contact you, as always and any child displaying any signs of coronavirus will be sent home.

We need your support:

In school we have several children with severe allergies, so please ensure that you **do not pack any food which contains nuts** as we need to safeguard all our children and continue to be a nut-free school.

As always, we thank you for your continued support. We very much look forward to fully reopening St. Paul's on Monday 8th March.

Miss McBride

Head teacher

