



Harwell Community Primary School

The Styles,
Harwell,
OX11 0HX

Headteacher: Bryn Gibson

Telephone: (01235) 835337

Email: office.2563@harwell.oxon.sch.uk

7th October 2020

Dear parents,

I hope you are well and that you all dried off quickly after the last soggy weekend. Hopefully, this coming weekend will allow us all to get out a little more!

This week, there is quite a lot of information for you. So, thank you in advance for reading to the end of this letter.

First of all, I wanted to thank you for your ongoing support and understanding. It is important that we all continue to work together and follow the procedures that have been put in place.

The drop-off and pick up routines are on the whole working well. However, we must all remember both social distancing and ensuring that the one way systems are adhered to, both for yourselves and your children. Please do not congregate and leave in large groups.

Timings are important.

The Foundation Class parents wait patiently each morning for all other classes to be in school before their children come in through the gate. If children from Years 1 to 6 are late arriving, then they will have to wait until we are able to let them safely onto the school site. Equally in the afternoon, Foundation Class parents collect their children ahead of the rest of the school at 3:05. Parents for children in other classes (particularly those collecting via The Styles) should not arrive before 3:10 and if you do, please wait back from the gates in a socially distanced manner to allow the Foundation Class parents to collect their children safely.

Some of those parents are then collecting older siblings from Years 3, 4 or 5 and they may go into the car park to wait. All other parents will please need to wait until the gates are opened at 3:10 after the Foundation parents have collected their children and left the school site.

Also, please remember not to bring dogs on to the school site. The only dogs allowed are guide dogs.

We have been making the most of the fantastic space available by each class/bubble having an allocated section of the school site. As the weather has become more autumnal, we can't use the school field in the same way but the children have been fantastic in adapting to changes we have brought in. Lunches for Years 2 to 6 are still being eaten outside whenever possible and eaten in their classroom at their own desks when necessary. This system is set to continue after half term unless new guidance is received.

Outcomes

Many of you will know that we like to have 'Outcomes' at the end of each project. Outcomes are a valuable event where children's learning is celebrated by parents. These are enjoyed by both parents and the children who love to show their parents what they have been learning.

We have enjoyed inviting parents into school to celebrate with their children but in the present circumstances, this is not possible. Outcomes will still happen but will be a little different. Details will either be included in the weekly parent calendar or in a separate email from your child's class teacher.

Curriculum

Over the last year, the school has been working hard to revamp the curriculum. We have kept our project-based learning, as we believe this is the best way to engage and support children's learning. The projects have been further developed to ensure that the links between the children's prior learning and their next step learning are more explicit as this supports the connections that the children make between their learning.

Teachers have completed curriculum plans for their class for the Autumn term (September to December) and these are on the website for you to see. Please take a look in the For Parents section of the website.

Snacks in school

Fruit or vegetable snacks are provided for children in Foundation and KS1 each day under a government scheme. Please feel free to send a snack with your child if they are in Key Stage 2. However, please remember that they need to be healthy snacks and don't send in chocolate bars, biscuits, or crisps. Thank you for your support with this.

Governor news

First of all, the results of the parent elections have been counted. Congratulations to James Thorne who has been elected as a parent governor.

At the first Full Governing Body meeting of the school year, the governors elect their Chair. For the last three years, Ann Parham has been Chair of Governors and I would like to thank her for all of her work and support for the school during her term of office.

Congratulations to Aisha Nevers who was voted in as Chair of Governors and to Frances Williams who was appointed as Vice-Chair.

Harwell School Association

Can I remind you that it is the AGM tomorrow evening at 7 pm. All parents are members and are invited to attend the meeting. As with all meetings, this will be held remotely. Please access the meeting using this link - meet.google.com/owb-wrko-rxu

Thank you - I am aware that there seems to be a constant stream of information being sent to parents. We hope that you find the weekly calendar and the information about events useful.

Warm regards

Bryn Gibson