



26<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents,

### **Summer Letter 5**

#### **Playground Makeover**

Our playground looks wonderful this afternoon with new playground markings including a giant snakes and ladders board, a duck – duck - goose game and a commemorative rainbow heart to thank our key workers. Many thanks to Megan and Daniel's Grandmother for her kind donation of £1000 earlier this year. This money plus money from our PE and Sport Grant has funded the new look playground. We will be teaching the pupils how to use each of the areas and hope it will help to keep them more physically active and engaged throughout their break times.

#### **DFE Guidance for Schools**

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May the country moved to Step 3 of the roadmap but in the guidance for schools published 24<sup>th</sup> May, the regulations and system of controls remains largely the same:

#### ***Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible***

*Minimising contacts and mixing between people reduces transmission of COVID-19. This is important in all contexts, and you must consider how to implement this. You must do everything possible to minimise contacts and mixing while delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.*

*The overarching principle to apply is reducing the number of contacts between pupils and staff. This can be achieved through keeping groups separate (in 'bubbles') and through maintaining distance between individuals. These are not alternative options and both measures will help, but the balance between them will change depending on the:*

- *pupil's ability to distance*
- *layout of the building*
- *feasibility of keeping distinct groups separate while offering a broad curriculum*

#### *How to group pupils*

*Consistent groups reduce the risk of transmission by limiting the number of pupils and staff in contact with each other to only those within the group. Maintaining distinct groups or 'bubbles' that do not mix makes it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate and to keep that number as small as possible. When using larger groups, the other measures from the system of controls become even more important to minimise:*

- *transmission risks*
- *the numbers of pupils and staff who need to self-isolate*

*Younger pupils and those with complex needs will not be able to maintain social distancing and it is acceptable for them not to distance within their group.*

*Using small groups can:*



- *restrict the normal operation of education*
- *present educational and logistical challenges*

*You will need to consider:*

- *the cleaning and use of shared spaces, such as:*
  - *playgrounds*
  - *boarding houses*
  - *dining halls*
  - *toilets*
  - *the provision of specialist teaching and therapies*

*Implement 'bubbles' of an appropriate size to achieve the greatest reduction in contact and mixing. Make sure this will not affect the quality and breadth of teaching or access for support and specialist staff and therapists. Whatever the size of the group, they should be kept apart from other groups where possible. Encourage pupils to keep their distance within groups. Try to limit interaction, sharing of rooms and social spaces between groups as much as possible.*

*Both the approaches of separating groups and maintaining distance are not 'all or nothing' options and will still bring benefits, even if partially implemented.*

*You may keep pupils in their class groups for most of the classroom time, but also allow mixing in wider groups for:*

- *specialist teaching*
- *wraparound care*
- *transport*

DFE Schools Coronavirus (COVID-19) Operational Guidance-Updated 24 May 2021

**As the DFE Guidance still requires us to have staggered starts and bubble working, our current systems will remain in place.**

#### Curriculum Enrichment

Despite these restrictions for schools we are still endeavouring to move as close to normality as possible whilst using our knowledge of risk assessments, system of controls and testing to keep the school community safe. So far this term we have introduced and reintroduced the following:

- **Cricket enrichment days**
- **Bikeability for previous Year 4 pupils**
- **Bikeability for current Year 4 pupils**
- **Bikeability for Year 6 pupils**
- **Swimming catch up sessions for the year groups who missed out during lockdown last year**
- **Swimming for our current KS2 pupils**
- **West Malvern Outdoor and Adventurous 2 day Course for our Year 4 pupils**
- **Virtual Campfire experience for Year 4**
- **Whole School Race for Life**
- **School Council**
- **Pupil Eco Committee**
- **Tennis Taster Days**



- **Poet laureate workshop day**
- **Forest School sessions for every pupil in school prior to the summer break with further sessions planned for the new year**
- **Whole school litter picking day**

**Plus we are reintroducing after school sports clubs for KS1 and KS 2 pupils after half term**

Many thanks to all of the staff for their efforts. There is additional planning and preparation required to devise COVID friendly enrichment activities. The whole staff team have played their part in enabling these wonderful experiences for our pupils to happen.

#### Wrap Around Care

We are regularly reviewing this provision. Following half-term we will be letting pupils in through the front door, rather than the blue gate, for breakfast club at 8am and 8.15am.

In September, breakfast club will open from 7.45am. After school club will continue to close at 5.30pm whilst the bubble arrangements remain in place for schools.

#### School Structure

Just to let you all know the governors and I are still working on the school structure for next year. Correspondence will be issued as soon as possible.

#### National Book Tokens-Win £5000 for School

Fill the library with new books!

A good school library isn't just important for academic achievement. Reading for pleasure also improves children's wellbeing – something our children need now more than ever before.

The National Book Tokens big prize draw is back, giving us the chance to win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for the school library and if your entry is picked, you will also get £100 of National Book Tokens to spend on yourself!

The closing date is Saturday 31st July 2021, and the winner will be announced in the autumn term.

Please use the link below to find out more...

[Win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school](#)

#### PE Kits

Many thanks in continuing to send your child/ren into school dressed in their PE kits on the correct days. This system is working well. Please remember that any outer layers worn must be school colours blue or navy and sweatshirts/hoodies should not have slogans or large logos. Joggers/leggings also to be navy, blue or black. A school sweatshirt or cardigan can be worn over the school PE top to keep pupils warm.

#### Health and Safety Inspection

We were surprised today to receive a visit from Worcester County Council conducting a Health and Safety Inspection, checking our catering facilities and fire exits. I am pleased to say we passed! And have achieved the highest 5 star food hygiene rating.

Kind regards

Mrs Dean  
Headteacher