

8 September 2020

Dear parents and / or carers,

Welcome back! We are so pleased to see all the classes back in school and hope to make this term and year as normal as possible. We really appreciate all your support with home learning and the teachers and support staff are already working hard to make sure that any learning missed will be revisited.

Please remember our staggered start and finish times to reduce contact between different bubbles. If children are late, please take them to the main reception as another bubble may be using the same entrance/exit. You will be unable to speak to class teachers at the gates and therefore you will need to arrange to speak to them via the school office.

Sycamore/Hazel (Y3 + Y4): 8.30 – 3.15 ENTER/EXIT GATE 3 (concourse by Early Years) Larch/Oak
(Y5 + Y6): 8.30 – 3.30 ENTER/EXIT GATE 1 (new gates by Forest School)

We are pleased to welcome some new members of staff into the Key Stage 2 team with Miss Kumari joining us as Hazel class teacher and Mrs De Souza and Mr Dillinger joining as teaching assistants in Year 3 and Year 6 respectively. Miss Goodship, Mrs Reed, Mrs Bainbridge, Mrs Seehra and Miss Bygraves have all moved up with their classes from last year.

KS2 Team 2020 - 2021

Sycamore (Year 3): Miss Goodship and Mrs De Souza

Hazel (Year 4): Miss Kumari and Mrs Reed

Larch (Year 5): Mrs Bainbridge and Mrs Seehra

Oak (Year 6): Miss Bygraves and Mr Dillinger

Diary dates Autumn Term - Key dates for your diary

Tuesday mornings (15th September – 20th October): Oak swimming lessons

Parents' Evening – w/c 12th October

Tuesday mornings (3rd November – 8th December): Hazel swimming lessons

Themes

We use a creative curriculum approach to our learning. Please see below to see what theme your child will be exploring this term. Children will be given a take home task to complete each half term based on their theme. They will receive more information on this shortly. You can also see an overview of their theme on the school website. Take home tasks will need to be slightly different this term to reduce resources moving between home and school. We are encouraging children to use Purple Mash to support the submission of their task. Photos, power-points and documents can be uploaded to your child's folder. Children will be shown how to do this at school.

Sycamore: Stone Age to Iron Age Hazel: Anglo Saxons Larch: Space Oak: Victorians

Reading

As the children get older, they are able to read more independently. Please continue to listen to them read when possible and acknowledge any reading in their reading records. Children will be able to take a school reading book and library book home with them. These will be quarantined/cleaned in line with our school risk assessment before another child borrows them. Please return any books from last year as soon as possible

Homework

As well as the half-termly take home task, children will receive Maths and English homework weekly. Spellings will also be set and tested weekly and children in Y3 and Y4 will have a weekly times tables test too. To ensure consistency across the key stage and school, all homework will be set on a Wednesday and will be due by Tuesday the following week. Homework will be set using Purple Mash. Children may receive some sheets to support them to complete their homework but please don't return these to school. If children are unable to access a computer/laptop/ipad etc. to complete their homework, please speak to your class teacher. Spellings will be tested on a Friday and new spellings/scores will be given out no later than Monday the following week. Children will be given a copy of the spellings for the whole half term this week. They will also be able to practise these on Spelling Shed. Spelling books and homework books will not be sent home this term.

PE kit

Please take note of your child's PE days below. We aim to complete PE outside as much as possible and so lessons may occasionally take place on a different day to the one scheduled. Please ensure that children have the correct clothing and footwear for indoor and outdoor activities i.e. Wixams Tree green t-shirt, black shorts and jogging bottoms, red jumper, trainers/pumps. Girls with earrings need their own tape to cover their earrings if they cannot be removed. All long hair should be tied back for PE, so a spare hairband might be useful. **Children should come to school in their PE kit on their PE days.** We suggest that children wear layers so that they are ready for both indoor and outdoor lessons (e.g. shorts and tracksuit bottoms). Those children swimming will be able to wear their swimmers underneath their PE kit on Tuesdays only.

Sycamore: Thursday and Friday Hazel: Monday and Wednesday
Larch: Monday and Tuesday Oak: Tuesday (swimming) and Friday

School uniform

Please ensure that that all items of school uniform (including PE kit and shoes) are named. Children should not have painted nails and long hair should be tied back.

Book bags/backpacks

We have very limited room in our cloakrooms and so we are encouraging children to bring in smaller bags (preferably a book bag only). Children should not bring in their own pencil cases as they will not be allowed to use their home equipment in the classroom. Any lunchboxes should be clearly named and left on the designated bubble trolley downstairs. Children will need to bring their own snack into the classroom with them to reduce congestion at playtime. Children in KS2 do not receive a free fruit/veg snack at break time, but may bring one from home. This should be fruit/veg only. Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school every day. Children will be unable to share cups in the classroom. If you wish to order milk then please speak to the school office. Children who are registered for milk will be able to access this at break. Snacks, packed lunches and birthday treats must all be free from nuts.

Home time

Please make sure that the school is informed if you wish to give permission for your child to regularly go home with another parent. Children in Year 5/6 may walk home alone or with another child but permission will need to be given for this. Please speak to your class teacher via the school office. If your child walked home alone last year please can you send a reminder email to the school office as different staff members will be on the main gates each day. If children need a mobile phone (i.e. because they are walking home alone) you will need to complete a form at the main reception. The office must be informed about any last minute changes to home time collection plans, so that this information can be passed to the teacher before the end of the day.

Parent wishes

We are working on how we can complete Parents' Evening this half term following safety guidance. If you have any concerns before then, please call or email the school to arrange a discussion with the class teacher.

Best wishes,
Miss Bygraves (Key Stage 2 Lead)