

Discovery Newsletter July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, this is not the way we had planned this academic year to end. However, we are thankful that all of our families have remained safe and well during these uncertain times. We are looking forward to the new academic year ahead and excited to welcome our new starters and our FS2 children back.

Settling Back in Time

We know that September could be slightly unsettling for some of the children, especially if they are a new starter, or have been a pupil that hasn't returned to school since the beginning of lockdown. Your child's happiness in school is our main priority, we feel that it is of upmost importance that he/she feels safe and is happy and secure in their environment before any learning is to take place. We will be planning activities and holding class assemblies within our bubble, that will both develop and support your child's social, emotional and mental wellbeing during this time. The children will be given lots of opportunities to reconnect with their friends again and establish new relationships.

September Procedures/ Morning Procedures (FS1 Nursery Children and Reception Children)

We are still awaiting guidance about certain procedures for September. The drop off and pick up times for the children will remain staggered, you'll be informed about these times in due course. All of the children will be returning to school on Tuesday 8th September, the FS1 children's morning and afternoon sessions will also commence on this date, or whenever their first session takes place after this date. The FS1 and FS2 children will be one big bubble with Mrs. Ellerby and Mrs. Clarke.

Playtimes and lunchtimes will be different to keep classes in their bubbles; unfortunately, we won't be able to have parents/carers in school for any events or dropping off in the morning until the guidance changes. If you need to speak to us, please ring the school office and we will return your call as soon as possible. We will use Tapestry regularly to share pictures and videos with you of what your child has been doing during the school day.

Other Class Procedures (FS1 Nursery Children and Reception Children)

Due to current situation, there will be some changes to our daily class procedures and routines. We will send out more information regarding these closer to September.

Washing Hands (FS1 Nursery Children and Reception Children)

Our regular handwashing procedures will carry on for all of the children; we will continue to adhere to the advice for preventing the spread of the virus.

Reading (FS2 children)

Please could you continue to read and discuss different books with your child over the summer holidays. If you feel that you've exhausted your home library and would like some new reading material to read to your child, we would recommend that you use the website below. You will need to register to access the e-books online, this is a relatively quick process.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

If you select the Oxford Reading Tree Level 1, this will provide you with picture books that you could discuss with your child, or alternatively you could choose any book to read from the huge range of books provided on the website.

Phonics Games (FS2 Reception children)

Below are some suggested phonic games that your child could play over the holidays.

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-2-initial-sound-game-1.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2yf4j/articles/z4ycrj6>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2yf4j/articles/zk3947h>

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/flash-cards?phase=2>

<https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/teachers-area/classroom-toolkit/phonics-songs>

New Starter Packs (FS1 Nursery Children)

Just a reminder that the only children who will receive new starter packs are the new children entering FS1 who haven't attended the setting before. Please could we remind the parents of our new starter children to return their forms which were inside their pack as soon as possible. Thank you.

Tapestry (FS2 Reception Children)

Tapestry will remain active over the summer holidays and we look forward to seeing what your children are doing. We would kindly ask that, over the holidays, you only make one entry per week to your child's Tapestry account; these entries can then be assessed and published to your child's journal as quickly as possible. You can add multiple photos and activities in your weekly entry.

Bookbags/ Sound cards/ Resources

When we are able to send material home, your child will receive a folder of resources in their bookbags to further support their learning. They will be given some sound cards,

tricky word cards and a laminated number and name sheet in an A5 plastic folder. We will let you know when your child is ready to use these resources at home.

We are ready and eager to go and are looking forward to seeing all of our children back at school in September.

Have a wonderful summer and stay safe,

Kind Regards,

Mrs Ellerby

Mrs Clarke