



HOWLETCH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – RETURN TO SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this update finds you and your family safe and well. It has been a busy week getting organised for the return of the rest of the children from Monday 8 March and we are very much looking forward to having a full school again.

Sadly we have had an increasing number of positive COVID cases in the Reception bubble across this week. Following advice from Public Health England and the local authority, we have taken the decision to **postpone the return of the Reception bubble until Monday 15 March**. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused. Remote learning will continue for the Reception bubble next week.

You will notice some new signs around the school perimeter to help us to keep everyone in the school community safe. Please make sure that you wear a mask when dropping off your children. The new variants of COVID 19 appear to be more easily transmitted from person to person and we want to avoid parents congregating for long periods of time increasing the risk of infection. For that reason, can we please ask you to only approach the school gates at your designated time and to leave promptly. In KS1 and early years we will be insisting on parents following the one-way system. Staff will be available to help you to follow this. Here is a reminder of the staggered times:

| Entry | | Exit |
|--------------|----------|---|
| EMP BASE | 8:45 am | 3:10 pm |
| Yr 6 | 8:45 am | 3:10 pm |
| Yr 5 | 8:50 am | 3:15pm |
| Yr 4 | 8:55 am | 3:20 pm |
| Yr 3 | 9:00 am | 3:25 pm |
| Yr 2 | 8:50 am | 3:10 pm |
| Yr 1 | 8:55 am | 3:15 pm |
| Reception | 9:00 am | 3:20 pm (from 15 March) |
| Nursery AM | 8:45 am | 11:30 – 11:45 am |
| Nursery PM | 12:30 pm | 3:15 – 3:30pm (30 hour children – 2:45pm pick up) |

VENTILATION

We will be ventilating the classrooms to ensure a COVID safe environment. Please ensure that your child is adequately and warmly dressed in school uniform.

THEFT

Yesterday evening, someone took the green mesh barricade which had been erected outside of the children's centre to form a barrier. We have some footage of this incident but if you have any information about this please contact the school office.

REMINDERS:

Return of COVID Laptops

If your child has been given a COVID laptop to use at home, we hope that this has been helpful. Please can you bring the laptop, power pack and black case to the school office on the day your child returns to school next week. Please do not send this with your child, an adult must drop this off at main reception. Thank you.

World Book Day - Friday 12 March

World Book Day was officially yesterday but as we would like to give all children the chance to enjoy this event, we are delaying our celebration until **Friday 12 March 12**. Children may come dressed as their favourite book character (or non-school uniform if they prefer). Classes will take part in a writing competition linked to a Mr Men book character and there will also be a Masked Reader competition.

Red Nose Day - Friday 19 March

Children can come dressed in the theme of red and can wear red noses or other red nose merchandise. Staff will be planning creative lessons to give the children a day of fun and laughter. We have set up a Parent-pay donation page in order for you to contribute to the fundraising without the need to bring cash into school.

Easter egg competition - Thursday 25 March

We will be holding a decorated egg competition in each class. Please can you get your child to decorate an egg and send it in on this day. There will be a prize for the winner in each class.

End of term – Friday 26 March

School will close on Friday 26 March for the Easter holidays and re-open on Monday 12 April.