

Gilberdyke Primary School

Newsletter

Wednesday 2 September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope your summer break has been fantastic with lots of relaxation and fun involved. It may not have been a traditional summer holiday for many of us given the circumstances but nonetheless, I am sure you will be ready to get back into the swing of school routines and regularity in much the same way as our (very excited) staff are. We can't wait to welcome everyone back from Monday 7 September.

Preparation for Monday 7 September

Last Friday we received updated guidance from the government and are awaiting the latest update from Public Health England, anticipated by the end of the week. Although there are no major changes to our risk assessment as published on the school website, the latest version will be uploaded by Friday for your information.

It will be no surprise that news about schools reopening is dominating the national press at the minute. To reassure you, we are very confident that our plans are robust and that the school and staff are prepared. Every area within the building has been deep cleaned so that it is safe and ready. Our daily procedures, including entrance/exit arrangements (details below) will be reviewed constantly to ensure it is as safe as possible for everyone.

Staff have worked incredibly hard over the summer holidays to prepare the classrooms and learning environments for the new academic year. Many have been involved in decorating and the classrooms look inviting and fresh for our new year ahead.

The curriculum will be broad and balanced. It will focus on 'catching up' any gaps in learning that have resulted from the closure and ensuring that the children are continuing to access every subject through our exciting short theme based on: 'We Are Here' by Oliver Jeffers. This has already been introduced to the children during their transition Zoom calls with their new teacher at the end of the summer.

Arrangements

As promised, we have prepared a video containing information about the entrance door/exit for your child's new class. A link to this will be sent to you via text. Please share this with your child.

As detailed in July, we are operating a drop-off and collection 'window' to reduce congestion on the school site and our strict one-way system will still operate. The table below is a reminder about drop-off and collection times. Please help by observing those around you, ensuring distance at all times and leaving the site as soon as you have dropped your child off/picked them up.

| Bubble (Yr Gp/Classes) | Drop-off Window | Collection window | Entrance/exit Door | Additional information |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Years 5 & 6 (Ospreys & Eagles) | Between 8.45 and 9.00am | Between 3.15 and 3.30pm | Separate classroom doors accessed from footpath | If you are bringing your Y5/6 child to school, please leave him/her at the school entrance to alleviate numbers of people on school site |
| Years 3 & 4 (&5) (Falcons & Kestrels) | Between 8.45 and 9.00am | Between 3.15 and 3.30pm | <u>Falcons</u>: separate classroom door from playground <u>Kestrels</u>: access door from car park | |
| Years 1 & 2 (Finches & Starlings) | Between 8.45 and 9.00am | Between 3.15 and 3.30pm | Separate classroom doors accessed from playground | |
| Foundation Stage (Wrens & Robins) | Between 8.55 and 9.10am | Between 3.15 and 3.30pm | <u>Robins</u>: designated EYFS door (separate info) <u>Wrens entrance</u>: side door from main playground <u>Wrens exit</u>: EYFS door at end of footpath | Please collect EYFS pupils (F2 Robins) as near to 3.15pm as possible |

In the interests of health and safety, please do not come to school early and congregate on the playground. The pedestrian gate onto the school site will remain closed until 8.40am in the morning and 3.10pm at the end of the school day.

Additional Information

- School dinners will run as usual from Monday 7 September. Pupils in F2 (Robins), years one and two (Starlings and Finches) are entitled to a free school meal as part of the universal infant free school meals government funded initiative. Pupils whose family are in receipt of means tested free school meals are also entitled to a free dinner every day.
- Children only need to bring their packed lunch (if they are having one), a coat/jacket, a school bag/book bag for their reading book and an asthma pump if required. Please

remember that all medication should be sent into school via the school office so that the appropriate forms can be completed.

- Please send your child with his/her own water bottle, clearly named.

Contact

As ever, we place great value on our partnerships with families and the community but under the current circumstances, parents will only be allowed into school on an appointment basis in order to safeguard the community. For now, we must utilise other communication channels in the interests of everyone's safety.

During arrival and collection times, staff will be unable to have face to face conversations with parents and family members but please do not hesitate to contact the office by phone or email and your child's teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.

Breakfast and after school clubs

Please see separate information letter regarding the breakfast club which will commence from Monday 7 September.

Further information will be released in due course about after school clubs when and if they are able to run.

Please remain safe and don't hesitate to contact us via; enquiries@gilberdykeprimary.co.uk with any questions. We will endeavour to support all families as best we can and we look forward to seeing all pupils next week.

Melissa Shirley

Head teacher