



Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2020

A Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our latest newsletter. The last time we sent out a newsletter, we had no idea that Covid-19 was about to ruin our planned calendar of events as we headed towards an exciting summer term. Now we find ourselves with two very simple but high priority aims: to keep school open and to keep everyone as safe as we possibly can.

We do hope that the landscape will change for the better as we move into 2021 and that we will be able to plan events that celebrate school life and bring our community back together. Until then let me just reassure you that we are working extremely hard behind the scenes to ensure that all of our children continue to receive the high-quality education they deserve.

Parent/Carer Consultations

These will take place in November and will be conducted over the phone. We are currently working with staff to decide the best way to facilitate these. We will contact you next Friday to share our plans.

Remote Learning

The government have tasked all schools to offer remote learning for children who can't attend school due to Covid-19. This brings with it many challenges but we will do our absolute best to ensure as much success as we possibly can in this endeavour. We have already surveyed our parents and have lots of useful information. We will be responding directly, in some cases, to those findings in the coming weeks. Success in remote learning is something that will be hugely dependent on support from home too. Please be sure to sign up to *Seesaw* if you haven't already. Any problems, just contact school and we will be happy to help in any way we can.

Christmas Celebration

Unfortunately, we won't be able to do our usual Christmas celebrations this year, but we will make sure that it is a festive period to remember. We are currently working through some options and whatever happens, we can assure you that this will be a very happy time in school for our children to enjoy.

Dinner Menu

When we return after the half term holidays, we will be reintroducing a hot option to our school menu. Your child will be able to choose on the day from a hot option or the current sandwich options with vegetables and pudding. Our youngest children will still be eating in their classrooms and the staggered lunchtime arrangements across school, will continue.

School Drop-offs and Collections

Our systems have been working very well but parents are still congregating around the school premises. It is our firm advice that you remain 2m apart and leave immediately after dropping off / collecting your child. You will notice that staff wear visors and face masks at these times and we would be very supportive of any parents and carers who wished to do the same.

Breakfast Club and After School Clubs

As you will no doubt be aware, Breakfast Club and our after-school provision are something we value enormously. Unfortunately, we still won't be able to offer either of these next half term. We will continue to review and risk assess and perhaps in the new year the picture will change and we will be able to resume these invaluable opportunities for our children and their families.

If you do have any queries or concerns, about these or any other issues, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do our very best to help you in any way that we can in the usual ways.

Tel: 0191 263 8139 Email: Office@rdees.org.uk

Best wishes to all and stay safe,

Mr Myers

Important School Dates for Parents and Carers

Friday 23rd October	End of first half of Autumn Term
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school
Friday 18th December	Final day of Autumn Term; break up for Christmas
Monday 4th January	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 5th January	Children return to school
Friday 12th February	End of first half of Spring Term
Monday 22nd February	Children return to school
Friday 26th March	Final day of Spring Term; break up for Easter
Monday 12th April	Children return to school
Friday 28th May	End of first half of Summer Term
Monday 7th June	Children return to school
Friday 16th July	Final day of the school year; break up for summer

Next Newsletter: Friday 8th January 2021*

** Please note that the dates in this newsletter have a 'Best Before Date' which is 08.01.21. After that we advise you pin the next newsletter on your fridge door and check for changes!*