



HERITAGE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Park Farm Way
Park Farm
Peterborough
PE2 8XA

Headteacher:
Miss K Bell B. Ed. Hon s. (Cantab).

Telephone: 01733 703656
Fax: 01733 703657

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Website: www.heritageparkschool.co.uk
Email: office@heritagepark.peterborough.sch.uk

Dear Parents

It has been a long time since we were all able to be back at school together and it is with great pleasure that we welcome you all back to school for the Autumn term. We were delighted to see so many happy children coming into school this morning!

I know that some of you may be feeling anxious as it has been a while since your child has been at school. Please do contact the school, via email, if you would like to share any information that you feel the class teacher should be made aware of.

The staff in school have been working hard to ensure that you and your child feel safe upon returning. Many of the changes that we have put in place are outlined in the newsletter that was sent home at the end of the summer term. A copy of this is available on the school website if you wish to revisit it.

The government guidance is that children in primary schools do not need to wear face coverings in school. Staff will also only wear PPE in instances where they are supporting a child who has suspected COVID-19 symptoms and is waiting to be collected to go home. Further guidance on the procedures for Test and Trace will be sent out in a separate letter. Children who have minor cold symptoms such as a runny nose or sore throat are welcome to come to school if they feel well enough but if they develop a fever, a persistent cough or experience loss of smell or taste they must isolate and we would ask you to book a COVID-19 test. If a test has been conducted please inform school of the outcome of the test as soon as possible as this will inform the decisions we make regarding your child's bubble.

Hand sanitiser

Hand sanitiser will be available in school for the children to use at appropriate times during the school day. Please do not send your child in with their own hand sanitiser.

Staggered timetables

It is important that we adhere to social distancing rules as much as possible outside the front of school. Can I please remind parents of the need to keep the number of adults and older children to a minimum when dropping off or collecting your child.

Holidays

Term-time holidays will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. As attendance at school is now mandatory again Penalty Notices for unauthorised absences may be issued. Please refer to the attendance policy on the school website for further information.

Snack

Children are welcome to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at breaktime. They will eat this in their classrooms before or after going out to play. Please do not send in cereal bars or items such as Fruit Winders. Key stage 1 children will continue to receive free fruit which will be handed out the day after delivery.

Reading books

A timetable has been drawn up which allows for each class to change their books twice a week. If you have any books left at home from last year please return these to school at your earliest convenience. Please restrict comments in the reading diaries to reading issues only. If you have any other concerns please email the office as this will allow us to ensure matters are dealt with as promptly as possible.

Homework

Homework will not be set in the first week back while the children are settling back into the school routines. From week beginning 14 September we aim to have everybody signed up to the new Google Classroom platform and from then on homework for years 1 to 6 will be sent via this platform.

PE Days

Children can opt to come in in their PE shorts on a warm day but may wish to bring their jogging bottoms in their bag in case the weather changes. Alternatively they can wear their PE shorts under their jogging bottoms if they prefer.

Medication

If your child has an inhaler or adrenalin pen in school it is important that it is still in date. Please liaise with your child's teacher and send in new medication as required.

Water bottles

It is essential that your child brings a water bottle to school each day. Staff are now able to refill these for the children so you do not need to send in more than one. Please ensure their bottle is clearly labelled with their name.

Restrictions on personal belongings

We kindly ask that all children's bags are small enough to fit inside their individual classroom tray. Backpacks are not permitted at this time. Lunchboxes will be kept in the classroom on a shelf.

Free School meals

If your financial circumstances have changed since children last attended school we would encourage you to contact the school office, who can give you advice regarding free school meals and the eligibility criteria.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bell". The lettering is cursive and stylized, with a large initial 'B' and a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the word.

Miss K Bell
Headteacher