



DROPMORE INFANT SCHOOL

Littleworth Road

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Headteacher: Mrs G Streete

18th April 2021

Dear parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back for the summer term on **Monday 19th April**. We hope this term will see a further relaxation of lockdown restrictions which hopefully will allow us to welcome our parents back onto the school site by the end of the term. Something to look forward to, but to get there we need to make sure we all follow the rules set by the government.

As mentioned in my last newsletter, the Easter holiday has been a perfect time to complete a number of upgrade projects: the new roof for the Year 2 cloakroom, the extension of the staff carpark and the server upgrade have all been completed. Our risk assessment has been updated, the school building has had a further deep clean and the sandpit has been fixed and topped up. We are ready for an exciting summer term!

Many of the procedures put in place for the full re-opening in March will stay the same. We will also be introducing some new initiatives: after school clubs, Dropmore shop and library sessions to name a few. The summer term is always a busy term, so please make sure you have read and understood all the information below. As always, if anything is unclear or if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly using head@dropmore.school

DROP-OFF / COLLECTION AND PARKING

We will continue with a staggered drop-off and collection timetable with strict parking rules.

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| • Reception: | Drop-off 8:45-9:00am | Pick-up 3:00-3:15pm |
| • Year 1 & Year 2 | Drop-off 9:00-9:15am | Pick-up 3:15-3:30pm |

We ask that **siblings** are dropped off together at 9am and collected together at 3:15pm.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 PARENTS:

If you arrive before your time window (before 9am or before 3:15pm), please park at the Jolly Woodman and walk or wait until your time slot. This will allow all Reception parents in their time window to use the limited parking spaces available.

As a healthy school and in support of our School Travel Plan we encourage everyone to walk to school, or to 'park and walk' from the Jolly Woodman. If you are not able to walk or 'park and walk' from the Jolly Woodman, the following parking rules apply:

- ONLY park on Littleworth Road or Wooburn Common Road
- DO NOT park in disabled bay
- DO NOT park on yellow zigzag lines
- DO NOT park on Dropmore Road
- Wait in Jolly Woodman Car Park until your time slot
- Drive away immediately after dropping off or collection



SOCIAL DISTANCING

It is of utmost importance that social distancing rules are adhered to by following our one-way system. Please ensure you (and any other adults involved in school drop-off and collection) are familiar with the drop-off and collection expectations and use the yellow arrows on the picture when arriving at school and red arrows on the picture when walking back to your car.



- All children must be dropped off by the 5-bar gate where a member of staff will be ready to welcome them. Late arrivals need to be dropped off at the front door.
- Please do not stop to talk to other parents, however difficult this may be. We must be vigilant, maintain social distancing and leave promptly after dropping off or collecting.
- Please do not stop to talk to staff when dropping off your child. If there is any important information that needs to be passed on, please email or call the school office and your message will be passed on.
- Collection arrangements are the same as the drop-off arrangements. Please stick to the time slot given and follow the markers on the pavement. Your child will be handed over as you approach the 5-bar gate.

FACE MASKS

Please wear a face mask when dropping off and collecting your child. Do not approach the 5-bar gate if you are not wearing a face mask!

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Parents have a duty to ensure their child attends and schools have a responsibility to record attendance and follow up absence. **Attendance** is always closely monitored by the school. If your child is going to be absent please inform the school by 9am (01753 644403 or office@dropmore.school).

Last term we had an extremely high number of late arrivals. **Punctuality** matters and will be actively monitored this term. The start of the school day is an extremely important time for children. Children arriving late miss out on early morning activities to consolidate their learning. Lessons start promptly so they often also miss the beginning of the lesson and are unsettled and not ready to learn. All children arriving late need to be dropped off at the front door and must be recorded in the late book with a (valid) reason. Please speak to Mrs Streete if you have concerns about your child's punctuality.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are so happy to be offering after school clubs again, starting on Monday 19th April! There are still a few places available in some of the clubs. For more information and to sign up, please [click here](#).

UNIFORM

The children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. These are currently timetabled as follows:

- Reception - Thursday
- Year 1 & Year 2 - Wednesday and Friday

All other days the children should come into school in full school uniform.

We ask each child to bring in a spare uniform set, preferably PE kit (plain polo shirt allowed), as well as their plimsoles, to be kept at school for 'emergencies' and sent home when used.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- In line with our Uniform Policy, children should **NOT be wearing nail varnish** at school. Please make sure this is removed before they come to school on Monday mornings.
- Please can all girls wear black (yoga / cycling style) shorts under their dresses/skirts when not wearing tights.
- As we are approaching summer, please ensure your child comes to school with a sun hat and sun cream applied.
- Please also ensure your child always has a jumper or cardigan at school. The school will be well ventilated and the classrooms do get cold.

WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL

- Children must bring in their **bookbags** daily.
- Children must bring in their **named Dropmore water bottle** daily (water fountains are out of use). Please DO NOT put water bottles inside the bookbag!
- Children must bring in a **sun hat** and/or **raincoat** (based on weather forecast).
- Do **not** bring in **sun cream**, but do apply sun cream at home, before school.
- The children must have their **Mile-a-Day shoes** at school at all times.
- The children must have a **change of uniform**, preferably PE kit, (including underwear, socks and plimsoles) at school at all times.
- Children may bring in a small pot/tube of **hand cream** if needed (this will stay at school in their tray).
- Do **not** bring in any **toys or items from home!**

DROPMORE SHOP

This summer term we will be opening up our Dropmore Shop again. Dropmore Shop has been set up to help the children count and use money in a real situation. We will be selling small stationary items eg pencils, sharpeners, clips, stickers. Initially the children are allowed to choose one item. They are encouraged to use the correct change and if this is not possible we encourage them to work out how much change they should get. These are excellent addition and subtraction practice opportunities for all! When they become more confident using money we allow them to buy two items. The items are priced between 1p and 25p. All the money from the shop is used to buy more items for the shop. It is an educational activity, not a fundraiser. Please could your child bring in a named purse with £2 in small change by Monday 26th April. We keep all the purses together in a safe place and will send them home when they need to be topped up.

VOLUNTEERS

We are hoping to welcome volunteers into school again this term, to help with reading (mornings), Dropmore shop (lunch time) and library sessions (mornings and lunch time), in line with our updated risk assessment. If you are able to offer a regular time slot to help out, or for more information please contact Mrs Streete (head@dropmore.school).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 27th April and Thursday 29th April – Parents Evening (remote)

Monday 3rd May – Bank holiday

LFD TESTING

All Dropmore staff have participated in the twice weekly LFD testing at home since the end of January. LFD testing is now available to all households in England. If you cannot get the LFD tests from you work, I strongly encourage you to order your own and take part. For more information on how to order *Coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow tests*, please click [here](#). By taking part you minimize the risks for our pupils and staff, your family and friends and the wider community.

COVID REMINDERS

- If **a child** displays corona virus symptoms, they must be kept at home and self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of the symptoms. Ensure the child is tested immediately and report back to school.
- If **someone in the child's household** displays corona virus symptoms, the child must be kept at home and self-isolate for 10 days. Ensure the person with symptoms is tested immediately and follow the government guidance.
- If a child displays Coronavirus symptoms at school, they will be isolated in the hall with a member of staff and a parent will be asked to collect them and arrange for the child to be tested immediately, informing the school of the results.

For the latest *Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection*, please click [here](#).

WHAT YOU MUST DO:

- ⇒ Please ensure you (and any other adult involved in school drop-off and collection) are familiar with the content of this letter and the new rules and procedures introduced.
- ⇒ Please maintain social distancing and adhere to government guidelines.
- ⇒ **DO NOT** bring your child into school if they or anyone in their household display symptoms or tested positive.
- ⇒ Please adhere to all procedures set out in this letter.
- ⇒ Please talk to us about any questions or concerns you may have head@dropmore.school or 01753 644403.

TRAVEL

If you have travelled during the Easter holiday, you must follow government guidelines. **DO NOT** bring your child to school! Contact the school instead for further advise and absence recording.

I hope this letter provides you with all the necessary information for a smooth start to the summer term. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact me directly using head@dropmore.school.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you back on Monday!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Streete
Headteacher