

The Coppice Primary School

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Dear parents and carers,

We are all looking forward to September when, hopefully, things will be more normal, though not normal! It will be a very cautious start, when home-learning finishes and full reintegration into school begins. However, the thought of seeing all of our children returning greatly heartens all of our staff.

Despite the government rhetoric that all schools will be open to all pupils from September, this is heavily reliant on the summer going well in terms of rate of infection. If we have a second wave then we might be back to 'square one'. It has been said that if people take more a cavalier approach to lockdown easing, then we might be paying the price of schools not opening at the start of September. Accordingly, I put out a plea to all parents to still stick rigidly to the guidance so that we can open. It only takes one act of thoughtlessness, a family going to a crowded beach, perhaps, then everything is jeopardised.

I repeat what I have said in previous correspondences, the onus is on every parent to try their utmost to keep risk to a minimum (unfortunately, we have heard of one or two of our families heading for the beaches). In September, if a case of coronavirus arises within school then we will have to close the school for a number of days. Nobody wants this, so it is imperative that we all abide by the guidance. Coronavirus is still out there - Leicester lockdown has proved the case. Where we feel families have been inconsiderate with this, we will robustly challenge. I do not mean to sound unduly harsh here, but we are dealing with a crisis, after all.

There is no doubt about it, school will not be a risk-free environment (though, with our risk assessment we will try our utmost to get close to this). Recently, there has been a u-turn regarding opinion around coronavirus and children's health. It is feared that children are more at risk than originally considered.

In September, given the wider return of children, it is most critical that communication is effective, with parents letting us know straightaway if they have any health concerns in the family relating to coronavirus. In addition, it is imperative that we have the most up-to-date telephone contact details and that parents ensure that they are available to answer their phones at all times.

There will be lots of information to follow regarding opening in September. There's lots to put in place. We will need to establish a 'recovery curriculum' (as the government call it), where we assess children for gaps in their learning and look at creative ways of plugging these gaps. We will have a definite plan for this for September. In addition, and, to begin with, most importantly, we need to get our children back into the swing of things - re-establishing routines, expectations and ensuring a good transition to ensure children's social and emotional well-being in school. We are also considering ways of managing bubbles of children effectively, making allowances for all of the logistical things (toileting, drop-off/pick-up, lunchtimes, playtimes etc.) - more to come.

Having our finger on the pulse regarding the wider school network, we feel as though we have managed things better than most schools and are proud of our record here, from the onset, given the rapidity and quality of what we managed to put in place with home-learning, through to

communication as well as support for key worker families. In addition, managing the wider return of some year groups on June 1st (when we opened straightaway, pretty much full-time) and being considerate to requests from parents as well as effectively managing waiting lists.

We are looking forward to seeing all of the children sometime in the final week (for their meet the teacher session). In advance of this, I detail new classes information below.

Nursery classes are now aware of who their new teacher will be in Reception.

Year 1: Mrs Tomkinson (RT), Miss Dixon (RD), Mrs Bond/Mrs Rowles (RG)

Year 2: Mrs Ashforth (1W), Miss Jones (1P), Miss Allen (1H)

Year 3: Miss Pugh (2CA), Miss Keight (2A), Miss Kirby (2J)

Year 4: Miss Wells (3K), Miss Johnson (3HK), Miss Whiteley (3P)

Year 5: Miss Gieron (4W), Miss Keogh (4S), Mr McGarry/Mrs Sealey (4M)

Year 6: Miss Cox (5LG), Mr Laight (5K), Miss Gatfield (5G)

We are often ahead of the game at The Coppice. We were lucky that we were able to make new appointments for the new year, appointing impressive candidates, before lockdown (which caught a few schools out with their processes).

We look forward to seeing more of you soon, in the final week, for the children's meet the teacher session (though it will be 'drop and go' for parents). We wish you an enjoyable and safe summer with the children. See you in September.

Yours sincerely

Bill Heptinstall

Meet the Teacher

We wanted to create an opportunity for the children to come back in to school to see their teacher and classmates before the summer holiday. We are pleased to be able to invite all children from Reception through to Year Six back for a planned session, to say goodbye to their existing teacher but also to meet their new teacher.

The meetings will be held in both the New and Old halls (see the attached timetable).

There will be clearly labelled places where the children will sit in the hall (2 metre distanced). The teachers will talk to them from the front of the hall where they will share information with the children and there will also be opportunities for the children to ask questions about next year. They will also receive a summer learning pack that we would like the children to complete.

If your child is already in school they will be taken to the relevant hall at the right time, so just stick to the usual drop off and collection times. For children who are not in school, we have clear drop off and collection arrangements that we ask you to adhere to.

NEW HALL: Children attending a session in the new hall will need to be handed over at the Church doors. They can then be collected from the Year One gate at the stated time.

OLD HALL: There will be two clearly marked areas outside the old hall for drop off and collection. The children will enter through the main hall door and will exit via the kitchen door.

We ask that all parents leave the school site whilst their child's meeting takes place. We are trying to ensure we don't have large numbers of parents and children on site at any one time. We have carefully staggered the times to help with this. Whilst on site, please adhere to the distancing rules of 1 – 2 metres.

YEAR SIX: For Year Six children we have arranged a 'Goodbye' picnic as there is no handover to make. This will take place on the school field and the children will have marked places to sit which will be 2 metres apart. We hope that all Year Six children will be able to return for this as a final get together. Class teachers and TAs will be there along with the SLT. If your child is allowed to walk home alone from this event, please send in a note giving your permission (even if previous permission has been given).

We very much look forward to seeing your child back in school and having the opportunity for them and teachers to say both 'goodbye' and 'welcome'.

Yours sincerely,

The Coppice Senior Leadership Team

MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS (14th July – 16th July)

NEW HALL				
Day	Time		Teachers handing over	New teachers (Sept 2020)
Tues 14th	9.15am – 10.10am	RT	Mrs Tomkinson	1T Mrs Tomkinson + Mrs Beavington
Tues	10.45am – 11.40am	RD	Miss Dixon	1D Miss Dixon +Mrs Gill
Tues	1.30pm – 2.25pm	RG	Ms Gough	1RB Mrs Rowles / Mrs Bond + Mrs Douglas
Weds 15th	9.15am – 10.10am	1W	Mrs Walker	2CA Mrs Ashforth + Miss McKenna
Weds	10.45am – 11.40am	1P	Miss Perry	2J Miss Jones +Mrs Doyle
Weds	1.30pm – 2.25pm	1H	Miss Harris	2A Miss Allen + Mrs Palmer
OLD HALL				
Tues 14th	9.00am – 9.55am	2CA	Mrs Ashforth	3P Miss Pugh +Mrs Campbell
Tues	10.30am – 11.25pm	3K	Miss Keight	4AW Miss Wells + Mrs Smith
Tues	12.30pm – 1.25pm	2A	Miss Allen	3K Miss Keight +Mrs Croft
Tues	2.00pm – 2.55pm	3P	Miss Pugh	4MW Miss Whitely + Miss Ellithorn
Weds 15th	9.00am – 9.55am	3HK	Miss Kirby	4J Miss Johnson + Miss Ellithorn + Mrs Smith
Weds	10.30am – 11.25pm	2J	Miss Jones	3HK Miss Kirby + Mrs Williams
Weds	12.30pm – 1.25pm	4W	Miss Wells	5G Miss Gieron + Mrs Freeman
Weds	2.00pm – 2.55pm	4S	Miss Shaw	5K Miss Keogh + Mrs Franklin
Thurs 16th	9.00am – 9.55am	5LG	Miss Gieron	6C Miss Cox + Mrs Dawson
Thurs	10.30am – 11.25pm	5K	Miss Keogh	6L Mr Laight + Miss Blundell + Miss Franklin
Thurs	12.30pm – 1.25pm	5G	Mr McGarry	6G Miss Gatfield + Mrs Abbotts
Thurs	2.00pm – 2.55pm	4M	Mr McGarry / Mrs Sealey	5MS Mr McGarry / Mrs Sealey
Year Six 'Goodbye' picnic on the field				
Tues 14th	1.00pm– 2.00pm	6C	Children need to bring with them their own picnic food and drink. They need to be dropped off at the side gate where they will make their way to the field and find a marked spot on the grass (2m distanced). Their teachers and TAs from this year will join them along with SLT. The children can be collected from the main gate.	
Wed	1.00pm – 2.00pm	6G		
Thurs	1.00pm – 2.00pm	6L		