



Kirtlington
C.E. School

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School value: Resilience
Christian value: Perseverance

12th March 2021

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who has adhered to the system of controls as laid out in the 'Return to School 8th March' school newsletter. In order to reduce transmission of infection, and keep our staff, school and community as safe as possible, please remember:

- only **one** parent should accompany their child to school,
- that **all** parents follow the **one-way system** and **do not** gather at the entrance gates/by the wall after arrival/pick up
- that the pavement closest to school is left free for access to ensure we are all able to follow the 2m social distancing guidance.

Thank you for the positive emails about how successful the return to school has been. We would like to thank everyone for wearing masks on school site but send a special thankyou to the families that have started home testing in order to further support the return to school.

We are also grateful to parents who have mentioned that some parents of younger children are lingering by the wall to say extra goodbyes to their children and for this to be fair for all children and parents, we would like to remind all parents to adhere to the guidance above and remember arrival and pick up should be as swift as possible.

We have also received concerns about the increase in dogs on site at arrival and pick up times. Please can we remind all parents that dogs are not permitted on school site, which includes the car park.

Finally, as the Public Health England letter stated this week, please can we remind all parents that we are still in a national lockdown and to follow the government guidance on social distancing and limit contact with other people especially after school and at the weekend.

Everyone's safety is important as we return to full capacity and we want to ensure we are able to keep our school as safe as possible.

Class News

It has been wonderful to see so many amazing costumes for our School World Book Day today and it has been a great way to celebrate the end of our first week back altogether. The children have been busy making book marks, book covers and discussing their favourite authors in class and it has been lovely to hear the children talk so enthusiastically about their reading.

This week we have focused on welcoming the children back to school and helping them with their new learning routines. As part of our return to school plan and mental health work, we have introduced the children to 'zones of regulation' which enables children to express how they are feeling and helps us to



Headteacher: Louise Williams

Chair of Governors: Paul Clifford

School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

identify which children need support to be ready for a 'green' learning zone. We will be learning more about zones of regulations and developing strategies to support children during this term.

The ZONES of Regulation®

			
BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

Our Community

Today, each family will be taking home a posy of daffodils from the church to celebrate Mothering Sunday. We would like to thank the church team for all the work they have put into this and for thinking of us. The posies smell wonderful and we hope you enjoy them as much as we have in the entrance hall today.

If you wish to join the **Akeman Benefice Zoom Family Service for Mothering Sunday**, please use the following link: [email akemanbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:akemanbenefice@gmail.com) OR [OR joannaclifford.akeman@gmail.com](mailto:joannaclifford.akeman@gmail.com).



Plant Pots

Thank you to everyone who has been able to decorate a plant pot. We are aiming to distribute them next week to members of the community. Please contact the office if you know of anyone who may like to receive a plant and to know we are thinking of them.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19th March-

Red Nose day

Wednesday 31st March-

Last day of term collection times:

Oak class - 1.15pm

Willow class - 1.20pm

Rowan Y1 - 1.30pm

Reception - 1.40pm

Start of term –

Monday 19th April.



Red Nose day

This year has shown we are at our best when we come together to be kind and look out for others. To celebrate Red Nose Day, we will be asking the children to bring their favourite joke to school and they may wear any comic relief merchandise instead of their school uniform if they wish. We will not be collecting voluntary donations for wearing non school uniform due to Covid 19 restrictions in school, but if you are able to donate please use the following link: <https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/fundraise/pay-in-your-money/>

Reading books return Friday 26th March

So that we can continue to follow our Covid 19 school risk assessment, please return all reading books by Friday 26th March so that we are able to quarantine them over the school holidays. Many thanks.

Parent evenings

Thank you for your positive comments regarding the new parent evening school cloud system. We are pleased to say we will continue to use this system for any formal and informal meetings during term time so please retain your logging in details. Many thanks.

Breakfast club survey 1st March

Unfortunately, due to a very low response, we are currently unable to proceed and secure a new provider, 'High Flyers', for breakfast and after school provision. If you have forgotten to return the survey, please do so as soon as possible or register your interest with the school office.

High Flyers is a before and after school 'Play' setting, that your child can attend within the safety and familiarity of their school environment. We are a privately run, quality Ofsted registered childcare provider within Oxfordshire, with years of experience. Children get to have fun, be creative and play.

We are looking at running a Breakfast and After School at your lovely school. Please take a look at our website: www.highflyers.org.uk, so you can get a feel of what we do. Throughout our themed terms we do fun things like painting, cooking, dancing and crafting. Most of the time children enjoy 'free play', this is where they can play freely and embrace their own imagination. We have an on-line booking system which can be easily controlled by you, we are extremely flexible, and you are able to make ad hoc bookings for those emergencies.

In the current economic climate, everyone's situations are changing but predict that even if you are working from home you will need to complete a full day. We are asking if you would kindly complete the questionnaire, so we can provide the best service tailored to your needs.

We can't wait to welcome you on board this journey with us.

Alison Ighani, manager of High Flyers.

Morning snacks

Please remember to provide your child with a **healthy snack/ fruit** for morning break. In line with our school policy, crisps, biscuits and chocolate are not allowed as morning snacks. Children in reception and key stage 1 will be provided with a piece of fruit but you are welcome to provide them with extra fruit or a healthy snack from home if you wish.



Free School meals

Should your circumstances change over the next few weeks or months, please see this link for further support. <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-school-meals>

Support for mental health

In these uncertain times if you feel you may need some additional support or your children do, a 24/7 mental health helpline has been launched in Oxfordshire. This round-the-clock helpline makes it easier and quicker to get the right advice you might need for your own or others mental health. This service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and temporarily takes pressure off 111 for people who need mental health care when their situation is not life threatening. The phone numbers and further information can be found at <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/24-7-mental-health-helpline-replaces-111-in-oxfordshire-and-buckinghamshire/>

Further support is available at:

Young Minds <http://www.youngminds.org.uk> - Information on child and adolescent mental health. Services for parents and professionals. Phone: Parents helpline 0808 802 5544 (Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4pm).

ChildLine is a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything. You can get help and advice about a wide range of issues and talk to a counsellor online or on the phone from 9am – midnight. Helpline 0800 1111.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/contacting-childline/>

Safeguarding

If you have urgent concerns about a child, please call 999. For other concerns, please contact the MASH team on 0345 050 7666

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/multi-agency-safeguarding-hub>

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend,

Miss Williams and the team

