

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

Dear Parents,

What a lovely first week back at Tickford Park! It was so lovely to see all those who returned on Tuesday and to see lessons resuming in school. Although it took a lot of careful planning, we are delighted that systems have run really smoothly. The children have been absolutely brilliant and have adapted to new classes and groups very quickly. We would like to thank everyone for maintaining social distancing both before and after school while drop off and collections are managed. Thank you all for your kind messages too – it is very much appreciated by all our staff.

### **School bus**

If your child usually travels to school on the bus, I would advise you to email [Client.Transport@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:Client.Transport@milton-keynes.gov.uk) to find out when this service will be resumed as it is provided by the Local Authority and not the school. They have not let us know about any arrangements. Thank you.

### **Items in school**

If you can, please limit items coming into school as much as possible – especially large rucksacks. A plastic carrier bag is best to transfer anything between home and school. Thank you. Each child has a tray in the classroom for their own personal equipment.

### **Year 1 - colour banded books - amnesty!**

When we broke up on the 20th March, we very kindly provided all year 1 children with 4 own colour banded books. Could you please have a good look at home in your cupboards and bags and return them back to school please? All books will be quarantined and cleaned before they are reissued.

### **Year 1 reading books to go home**

From Monday June 8th, your child will come home with a new colour banded reading book for you to read and enjoy at home together. Please record any comments in your child's reading record which is to be kept at home, we shall use our own reading record sheets in school. We will change reading books for ALL children on Monday and Thursday. If possible, we will aim to do this more frequently if the need arises. When your child has finished their book please send it into school for your child to place in the 'reading books returned' box which will then be quarantined. They will then be issued with a new reading book.

### **Foundation stage reading books**

Miss Morley has asked if parents/carers could return any reading books that were provided before 2<sup>nd</sup> June. They can be dropped off in the box in the school's main reception if your child is not attending school at the moment. This is so they can be quarantined, and cleaned, before being given out again. If your child is attending school, they can be returned when they come in.

### **Classroom ventilation**

Not sure what has happened to the sunshine but the weather has definitely turned! As I'm sure you will appreciate teachers are keeping the classrooms as ventilated as much as possible. However, with doors and windows open some of our younger children have expressed that their little legs are 'chilly' - it may be worth digging out the tights!

### **Birthdays**

Whilst we usually allow children to bring in sweets or cakes to give out on birthdays, unfortunately this will not be able to happen under the current circumstances.

### **Y2, 3, 4 and 5 distance learning**

It has been great to see so many children from the above year groups accessing their distance learning again this week. Please remember that the teachers will now be working in teams - one teacher from each year group will be in school, while the other manages the home learning. Please ensure you post all completed work to the teacher managing the distance learning for the week.

### **Distance learning for children not returning in FS, Y1 and Y6**

For Y1 and Y6, this is now in a timetabled format and will be posted via the year group blog on the school Website. For Foundation, there will still be posts on Tapestry but this will be in a more limited form as our teachers are all back working in school.

### **Supporting children – mental health**

Here are some online activities for parents to do with their children to help manage anxiety, trauma, change and loss.

Trauma and loss:

<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/uploads/Files/PDFs/Resilience%20Activities/Change%20and%20Loss%20Activities.pdf>

Building confidence and resilience:

[https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/Content/building\\_confidence\\_and\\_resilience/#/id/59e4d478ab5c1b176f1e2aea](https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/Content/building_confidence_and_resilience/#/id/59e4d478ab5c1b176f1e2aea)

Coping with change:

<https://www.early-education.org.uk/sites/default/files/Helping%20children%20cope%20with%20change.pdf>

<https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/10-ways-for-parents-to-help-their-children-cope-with-change?pdf=coronavirus-toolkit-6-resilience>

### **Gazebos**

Thank you so much to the families, and children's centre, who have loaned us Gazebos. These will be hugely appreciated by the children, and give them somewhere else to learn, read or relax!

Have a lovely weekend,

*Claire*

Miss Claire Britnell

Interim Executive Headteacher