

# Tickford Times

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Welcome Back!

It has been lovely to meet so many of you at the school gates this week and see your children in their new classes. The children have seemed happy and their attitudes towards their learning have been very good. I hope that they have enjoyed their first week back at Tickford Park Primary School.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank all of the parents, children and staff in the school community for their warm welcome. I've enjoyed the positive atmosphere around the school and am looking forward to working with you all in the coming year and beyond.

## Keeping Safe on Site

I'd like to thank you all for your patience this week as we've had to act quickly to make adjustments to the procedures for picking-up and dropping off pupils. Whilst we will, of course, continue to monitor these arrangements, we believe that we now have a safe and efficient system in place.

You will have seen that there are new restrictions coming into place on Monday, and, whilst these do not apply to schools, it is important that we recognise their significance. Please support us in keeping our school community safe by not socialising on the school grounds, and by leaving the site as soon as you have collected your children.

Thank you for your support.

## Class Dojo

It has been great to see so many of you signing up to Class Dojo this week. I hope that you will find this a valuable tool to develop the partnership between home and school. Particular congratulations should go to Diamond Class, who have already achieved a 100% parent sign up! We'll be using Class Dojo to keep you up to date on things that are happening in your child's class and across the school.

Please be aware that 'Class Dojo Beyond' – the home version of the platform is discrete to the one that we are using at school. There is no expectation that parents use this at home, particularly as there is a cost implication for the upgraded version. Without any subscription, you will still be able to access all of the features that we will be using in school.

Class teachers will be opening up Class Dojo each working day and awarding points to children for excellent learning. The points will accumulate throughout the year and children will be rewarded for these achievements. Please note that whilst it is a valuable tool for home-school communication, it is not an 'instant messaging' application and teachers won't be expected to check or respond to messages in evenings or at weekends.



## Home Learning

This year we will be making use of a range of online learning platforms, such as My Maths and Purple Mash, for the children's homework.

Teachers will set work once a week on a Thursday and we ask that children complete their tasks by the following Wednesday. Weekly tasks will be available on Class Blogs and on Class Dojo.

If your child does not have access to online learning resources at home, please speak to your child's class teacher so that we can make alternative arrangements for their home learning.

We will be sending home Reading Records once again this year to help you support your child with their reading and communicate this work back to school. However, we will not be passing them regularly between school and home in the way that we usually would. Instead, we ask that these are sent into school each Friday. They will then be returned home the following Monday.

## Tickford Teatime club

Tickford Teatime club will re-open on Monday 21st September. We have limited spaces, so please book your sessions via the gateway as soon as possible.

If your child has not attended the club before, you will need to complete an application form (available from the office) before you can book your place. We have made a few changes to the structure of our sessions to allow us to adhere to the government guidance on wrap-around care. A parent's guide will be issued next week with full details of the set-up.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Louise Andall, our school business manager at [Louise.Andall@tickfordpark.org.uk](mailto:Louise.Andall@tickfordpark.org.uk).



*Our new year 6 children have been working hard in their burgundy uniform.*



*Congratulations to Lucy, Billy and Tia in Sapphire class, who have all earned 19 Dojo Points this week – the highest in the school at the time of writing!*

## After School Clubs

A few of you have inquired about some of the after school clubs that were previously held at Tickford Park. Whilst we will endeavour to restart these as soon as we are safely able to, we do not feel that it is appropriate to do so at this time. We will keep you updated as this situation develops.

## Warm Welcomes

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to a few new members of staff who have joined our school community this week:

- Mrs Tokarski-McLean and Miss West have joined our team of lunchtime supervisors.
- Miss Lennox has joined our Year 4 team as the class teacher for Peridot class.
- Mrs Goodman-Goult has joined our team of Teaching Assistants and will be working in our Year 3 team.

I'm sure that you will join me in sending them all our best wishes for the year ahead.

