

Dear Parents and carers,

Summer Term Newsletter 1 - Wednesday 3rd June 2020

It was wonderful seeing more children in our school buildings yesterday and the children quickly getting used to the 'new normal' way of schooling. We appreciate that some children are still unable to return to school and would like them to know that we hope to see them again very soon.

Mrs Wilkins, with many of the staff employed at Manor Court, have made a new video and we have posted it onto the school website and shared it through Twitter and our official Facebook page.

Returning to school

If your child is in the Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6 or you are employed in a job that is on the Government's list of those eligible to return and you would like your child to attend next week (from Monday 8th June), please email the year group email address or the school office **by midday tomorrow, Thursday 4th June**.

It is essential that you meet this deadline and that we have numbers in advance so that we can plan class and staffing structures, ensuring that we are complying with social distancing requirements and keeping all children and staff safe.

Mr Glentworth

After teaching at Manor Court for the past eight years, it is with great excitement that we write to inform you that Mr Glentworth has achieved his first Headship and will be the Head Teacher of Kingfisher Primary School in Yeovil. This is a fantastic opportunity for him to lead a growing school within the Preston Primary Academy Trust and we know that he will be an asset to Kingfisher School as he has been at Manor Court.



Mrs Hall

More happy news! It is with great pleasure that we inform you that Mrs Hall is pregnant with her second child. The baby is due to be born in December 2020. Mrs Hall will return for the start of the academic year and will continue to share a class with Mrs Jones.

Class structure for 2020-2021

Finances are becoming increasingly tight in education throughout the United Kingdom and less finances have to stretch even further. School funding is allocated on the number of children in the school and despite our Good Ofsted judgment, improving reputation and excellent school offer, the number of children is lower than we need. In our current Year 1 and Year 2 (next years' Year 2 and 3) we only have eighty children and it is no longer financially viable to have four classes of twenty children. For this reason, I have decided to temporarily reduce the number of classes in the school from fourteen to thirteen. This is a temporary measure for one year to offset the increasing costs in running our school and maintaining the excellent and inclusive offer that we provide for all children. The local governing body and PPAT directors have agreed with my decision to have a mixed aged Year 2 and Year 3 class in September 2020 and I will send further information to the parents of the children in this year group later this term.

Y6 Transition to Holyrood

We appreciate that parents of children in Year 6 are concerned about the transition to Holyrood in September. Mrs Hall and Mr Talmage have a virtual meeting with the staff from Holyrood tomorrow. We will inform parents as soon as we know further information.

Parent refunds

We are working hard to achieve refunds from the companies who were hosting the children on their Y4, Y5 and Y6 residentials this year and for the swimming lessons. As you can appreciate there is a process that we are required to follow to ensure that we can secure every penny of your money from the company. Thank you for your patience in this matter.



Term Dates 2020-2021

The term dates for the 2020-2021 academic year have been published can be found on the school website.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of everybody. In terms of keeping children safe, please “Don’t think “What if I’m wrong” Think... “What if I am right” If you have any concerns about a pupil you should report this to a member of staff immediately. If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse you must contact the Designated Safeguarding Team immediately. Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Clode and Deputy Designated Safeguard Lead: Miss Gregory and Mr Talmage. The school Safeguarding & Child Protection Governor is Mrs Jo Boyland.

Healthy snacks

As part of the science, PE, and PSHE lessons, we teach the children the importance of a balanced diet. We are becoming aware that some of the snacks, which some children are eating during morning break, are not the healthiest. Please ensure that your child does not have nuts, chocolate, sweets or fizzy drinks in their bag to eat. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mr L Talmage
Head Teacher



Mr A Clode
Deputy Head Teacher/Inclusion leader