

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### **Dear Parents/Carers**

We are looking forward to welcoming all our children back in school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Parents who have supported their children's home learning have been amazing and we really appreciate your efforts. We understand that it has not been easy, but you can continue to support your child as they all return to school with regular reading and talking to them about what they have been doing in school.

### Arrangements for Children Returning to School

Please read the Headteacher's letter sent by email on 26<sup>th</sup> February carefully.

Here is a summary of the arrangements for children to be dropped off and collected from their classroom entrances as well as the staggered start and collection times (8.45am – 9.00am and 2.50pm – 3.05pm) to allow parents more time are still in place. We ask **ALL** parents and carers to wear face covering when they are on the school grounds (as this is for a very limited amount of time) to help protect us all

Children must attend school unless they are unwell. If they are not in school, we ask that you phone the school office to let us know. If you, or someone in your house or your child has a temperature, new and continuous cough, a lack of taste or smell then please keep your child at home until they have had a COVID test and you have received a negative test result.

Many staff are also having a lateral flow test twice a week so we can act quickly in identifying anybody who may have COVID with no symptoms. The Government has just confirmed twice-weekly testing using rapid lateral flow tests will be given for free to all families and households with primary, secondary school and college aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles, to help find more COVID-19 cases and break chains of transmission. As soon as we hear from Milton Keynes Council about how, when and where families can collect their lateral flow tests, we will let you know.

# Hello and Goodbye

We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Louise Jones as our new receptionist/ administrator. We are sure that she will settle in very quickly, but please be patient as Mrs. Jones gets to know you all and find out everything about the Willows School.

We are sorry to say that Mr Solanki will be leaving us at the end of this term. Miss Begum will continue to teach Rabbits Class and Mrs Orbell is looking forward to teaching the Squirrels class. We wish Mr Solanki every success for the future.

# **Easter Bonnets**

This year, we cannot hold our usual Easter Bonnet parade for parents because of Covid restrictions. If you would like to, you can still make an Easter Bonnet with your child at home and send in a photo of your child's efforts by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We shall give a prize to the best ones in each class group. Please send your photos to the school email address: office@thewillowseyc.org.uk. You can be as imaginative and creative as you like. We are looking forward to seeing your photos.



# **Diary Dates**

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	8.45am	All Children return to school
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00am	Please send in your Easter Bonnet Photos from Home
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	3.00pm	Term ends for the Easter holidays

# **School Dinner Orders**

Next week, please check your child's book bag for their Summer term dinner menu. It is essential that you return this to ensure your child has their preferred lunch choice. Louise, our new receptionist, will be ordering the dinners on your child's behalf, so help us to help you and return the form without delay.

# Tuck

To allow time for children to settle back into school, Tuck (30p/week) will start after the Easter holidays.

# **PE lessons**

PE lessons for KS1 and Reception children start next week. Children can wear their PE clothes to school on their PE day as follows:

Badgers and Hedgehogs	Tuesdays
Rabbits	Wednesdays
Squirrels	Thursdays
Owls	Fridays

# 'How to Budget and Save Money' Information Pack

The Pebbles Children's Centre team which is located behind the Willows School, have put together a free budgeting information pack full of money saving ideas, tasty low cost recipes and a re-usable meal planner for your family to use. The packs will be left on the trolley outside Pebbles main door, just pop along to pick one up on your daily walk!



