



GREEN LANE PRIMARY ACADEMY

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Ref: Admin/Letters/EndofYear20

16th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been a year like no other, and we would like to say a huge thank you for the support you have given us during very difficult circumstances. Whether your child has stayed at home or attended school during lockdown or re-opening, we have been overwhelmed by the wonderful feedback we have received. Thank you – it has meant a lot!

From the end of this week, we will no longer be updating remote learning on the website or producing learning packs for collection. Staff will be on holiday for the six weeks summer break.

School will close on Friday 17th July and we are looking forward to welcoming back your wonderful children on **Wednesday 2nd September**. Reception and Nursery children will have a staggered start and have already been advised of their start dates.

The office will be open from **Tuesday 1st September** for any enquiries.

RISK ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY MEASURES

We have updated our Risk Assessment for the full re-opening of school in September and this can be found on the Covid19 page of our website. The safety of all pupils and staff continues to be our utmost priority and we recognise that many of you will still be anxious. Please be assured that we have followed Government and Public Health England advice to ensure we can open fully in the safest possible way.

START AND END OF THE DAY

To allow for social distancing on the school site at the start and end of the day, we will have all entry doors open from **8.40am until 9.00am**. Staff will be on the playground to direct you to the correct door if you are unsure where your child's new class enters the building. There will be no lining-up on colour spots. If your child is late, access to school will be via the St Mary's Walk office entrance.

EYFS and Key Stage 1 classes will finish at 3.00pm and KS2 classes at 3.15pm.

We request that only one adult accompanies the children to school to enable us to maintain social distancing. A one-way system will operate from the Green Lane gate and we ask that parents also adhere to distancing measures if using the St Mary's Walk gate.

Please note, access to Nursery, Butterflies and Reception is through the emergency vehicle gate on St Mary's Walk.

We ask that visits to the office are kept to a minimum and any communication is made by phone or email where possible. If you need to talk to a member of staff, please phone to arrange a convenient time.

"Green Lane – A Big School with a Big Heart"

ATTENDANCE

Temporary guidance was introduced this term and parents were not penalised if their children did not attend school.

From September, attendance is mandatory and all pupils are expected to attend every day.

ORGANISATION

From September, and to minimise the possible spread of infection, pupils will stay in year group 'bubbles'. This will include playtimes, lunchtime and all teaching time. There will be no opportunity to mix with children in other year groups.

We appreciate that some children may feel apprehensive about their return to school: please be reassured that we will do everything we can to ensure they have the necessary pastoral and academic support to enable them to return happily and safely. Teachers have already planned a curriculum which will enable them to readjust and make progress.

SCHOOL MEALS

Our usual meals service will resume in September and there will be a choice of hot meals and salad bar. All children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 qualify for a free meal under the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meal initiative. For all other year groups, please make meal payments in advance via ParentPay - the cost of a school meal is now £2.05. We have made many adjustments to our lunchtime routine to ensure safety and hygiene measures are prioritised.

BAGS AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Under new Government guidance, pupils will be allowed to bring a bag into school but we ask parents to keep personal possessions to a minimum and only what children need for school that day. We ask that personal pencil cases are kept at home.

Please note, we encourage children to bring fresh water in a clear bottle and for KS2 pupils, a piece of fruit for playtime. We are unable to offer playtime fruit for sale, at this time.

UNIFORM.

We are always so proud of how families follow our Uniform Policy.

Please see below important aspects to help you if purchasing new items for September.

Hair Styles	Our Uniform Policy clearly states that 'extreme' styles are unacceptable for school, including shaved sides, lines etc.
Hair Accessories	These should be small and unobtrusive and in school colours – royal blue, white, navy, grey, black.
Shoes	Shoes should be plain black school shoes – not trainers or other footwear styles. Velcro fasteners for younger children would be appreciated to encourage independence.
Tights and Socks	Plain and in school colours – white, grey, black, navy.
Leggings	These are not part of the Green Lane Uniform. Tights or trousers can be worn instead.
Nail Varnish	This is not suitable for school.
Earrings	These should be small, single studs only.
Fitbits	These are allowed – however, devices which receive messages or are linked to the internet e.g. i watches are not allowed in school. Please note that all watches etc. must be removed for PE and placed in pupils' trays, and therefore expensive items are discouraged.

Could we also remind you that PE kits should be in school at all times. We will send them home regularly for washing. Please ensure children bring their PE kits on the first day back in September.

ACORN BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROVISION

Our wrap-around provider 'Acorn' will resume in September. Please contact the school office for further details if you require this service.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK!

We would like to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to Mr Pottage who will be leaving Green Lane, and teaching, at the end of term. Mr Pottage has taught at Green Lane for over 20 years and has been an excellent teacher throughout this time. We wish him all the very best in his new ventures! Mrs West (Reception TA) will also be leaving at the end of term to train to be a teacher. We wish her the best of luck!

We have created an 'End of Year' video for you to enjoy – it can be viewed on Twitter or you can use the QR code below.



I sincerely wish you and your families well over the summer break and, if at all possible, take time to rest and recharge. This has been such a difficult time for all of us but we have managed under very difficult circumstances. Please be reassured that when your children return in September, we will give them every support to allow them to flourish.

We look forward to seeing you all in September – have a lovely Summer!

With very best wishes – take care and stay safe.

Jackie Walsh
Head Teacher