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23 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 2 – Year 5
Friday in School Arrangements

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. We are so looking forward to welcoming your child back to school on their assigned Friday. We have missed them! I apologise for the length of the letter but it is vital that you read it in its entirety as it gives crucial information you will need to know prior to your child coming to school.

Since the wider opening of the school on 3 June, we have been following the expectations from the Department for Education which have been adapted slightly in line with Local Authority Guidance. We have worked hard to create strategies which maintain social distancing for our children and staff as much as possible. However, we must acknowledge – as the Government have - that, **“Unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 meters apart from others.”** This does not mean we will relax procedures and allow close proximity or contact, but rather that we cannot guarantee this. Nevertheless, I hope this letter clearly outlines the precautions we have in place for our children in Magical Meare.

Provision

It is important that you and your child understand that this will not be school as you or they know it. In the event of bad weather, your child will be sat at an individual desk that will be spaced out in the classroom. Every child will be provided with their own set of equipment that they alone will use. Toys and other play-time resources will be provided by the school and will be regularly cleaned. **Children must not bring in pencil cases, reading books, lunch boxes, book bags or rucksacks, toys or comforters.** All learning environments will be ‘controlled’ - with limited movement. Obviously, this is not at all the type of creative learning environment that the children of Meare Village Primary School are used to so if the weather is fair, we will be outside making the most of our lovely playing field!



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



The table below outlines when each year group is in and the timings for their school day. Please take careful note of the date your child's year group is in.

Kingdom	Date	Start time Procedures		End time Procedures		Teaching Team
Year 2	Friday 26 June	8.40am	Drop off along the back path to the BACK GATE following the ONE WAY SYSTEM	3.00pm	Line up along the back path and wait for a staff member to bring your child out to you. Leave by following the ONE WAY SYSTEM across the staff car-park	Miss Dare Mrs Hicks Draconis Class
Year 3	Friday 10 July	8.40am		3.00pm		Miss Dare Jane Higgs Draconis Classroom
Year 4	Friday 3 July	8.40am		3.00pm		Mrs Noel Mrs McCabe Centaurus Classroom
Year 5	Friday 17 July	8.40am		3.00pm		Mrs Fellows Mrs Noel Centaurus Classroom
Key Workers' Children	-	8.40am		3.00pm		Mr North Mrs Hecks

Start/End of Day Arrangements

There are yellow painted lines along the back path to ensure social distancing. The teaching team will be there to welcome you and your child in the morning and say goodbye at pick up time. **Please can we ask that you do not enter the school site but wait by the gate into the back playground.**

We sympathise that the following will be difficult, as the children have missed their friends, but for health and safety reasons please **DO NOT** allow your children to mingle whilst waiting to enter the school. Once your child is with a member of staff, we ask that you leave the school via the staff car park. Once in school, children will be taken to wash their hands straight away.

The staff carpark **must not** be used by parents or carers for either drop-offs or pick-ups. Please do not block the gate to the staff carpark.

Lunch Arrangements:

All children will need to bring a packed lunch from home – this must be provided in a disposable bag. Please ensure that lunches are packed with easy access foods so that staff do not need to support. No hot meals/lunches will be available on site. Benefit based FSM children will still be provided with weekly food boxes. Those attending school should be provided with their own packed lunch using the food from the food box provided. Other

than a water bottle and a coat, where required, **we do not want them bringing anything to school that could increase the risk of cross infection.**

Movement in the Building and Bubble Arrangements:

Children will remain in their Kingdoms during their time in school. They will not be allowed to visit any other Kingdom. Similarly, staff movements will be controlled within certain areas to minimise the risk of spreading infection from one bubble to another.

Any staff working across the school in a 'floating' role will take additional precautions with hand washing prior to entering any bubble. Cleaning staff will wear PPE. Additionally, visitors to the school are not permitted except for contractors who need to do statutory on-site checks and repairs. All parents are advised to contact the school via email or telephone. If anybody does need to visit the school, there is a strict maximum capacity on how many people can be in our entrance lobby. Adults will only be admitted beyond this point if there are exceptional circumstances e.g. to collect an unwell child. At this point, suitable precautions will be taken.

Uniform:

School uniform is not necessary. Clothes should be sensible and practical for school. We would recommend that children change their clothes as soon as they arrive home from school and that these are washed immediately.

General Health & Safety:

In addition to the logistical arrangements outlined above, there are a whole range of other Health and Safety measures we have taken to keep our children and staff safe. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- All children and staff will be asked to wash their hands as soon as they enter the building and regularly and routinely throughout the day.
- Cleaners have continued to follow enhanced cleaning measures throughout the return to school for chosen year groups. Additionally, on Fridays, our cleaning team will continue to undertake a 'deeper' clean. All staff support additional cleaning of resources as required.
- Wherever possible, we would ask that parents/carers drop off/pick up children. This has helped us to limit the number of adults or additional children on site. If this is not possible, you should speak to a member of staff who will be available to support around the site.
- Soft furnishing, soft toys and toys difficult to clean have been removed.
- Some staff may be using PPE as they have vulnerabilities themselves or vulnerable people in their family home. Cleaning staff will always use PPE. First aid will be administered with the use of PPE.

We must accept that none of these plans are cast in iron and we cannot guarantee that our provisions will stop the spread of Coronavirus. We are all aware of how illnesses can spread within any school setting. Therefore, if your child has an underlying health condition then you may want to consider keeping them at home. Please do not hesitate to call the school office if you are not sure or would like to discuss specific circumstances in more detail.

Please know that we have the health and safety of all our Magical Hooman Beans, parents and team at heart and we will continue to ensure that your child enjoys their day with us even with all these new and unusual rules and regulations in place. Please do not let them put you off sending your child in. We cannot wait to see them and always remember that you cannot suppress the magic at Meare!

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Fellows and the Magical Meare Team

Four walls that hold tomorrow ...