



Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894 Fax: 01920 469606

E-mail: admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman



'Knowing each child, growing each child, in God's love'

Monday 31st August 2020

Dear all,

We hope that you have all enjoyed the summer and are able to make the most of the next couple of days. We are all very much looking forward to welcoming the children back on Thursday 3rd September. I wrote to you to outline important information from our risk assessment at the start of the holidays. This is a reminder and I have included some key dates for the term.

Full School Return

We expect that almost all children will be able to attend full time. If you've received clinical or public health advice that your children should still remain at home, please let us know. The attendance policy will be back in place from September and the government requires schools to remind parents that attendance is mandatory. If you have concerns regarding this, then please speak to us.

Bubble Groups

Each class will form a bubble group and we will minimise interaction between bubbles as much as possible. All staff will be able to move between bubbles and some groups of children. Break times will be staggered and bubble groups will be separated as much as possible at lunch time. Children will only be able to choose packed lunches for dinners for the first half term. We will then review the situation. Hand sanitising/handwashing will be taught and reinforced with all bubbles on a daily schedule.

Drop off and Pick up

Drop off and pick up will be staggered to encourage social distancing. Please adhere to the timings set out below:

	Drop off	Pick up
Ash and Pine Class (N-Y3)	8.45am	3.10pm
Oak Class (Y4-6)	8.50am	3.15pm

One parent should drop off/pick-up at all times. Non-school age children should be in pushchairs or held. Once your child has been dropped off/picked up, please leave promptly. Parents should not pass the sprayed yellow line outside the purple gates or enter the school building or site unless in an emergency. Please do not wait by the purple gates until your child's allotted time slot (unless you are dropping off a younger sibling).

Punctuality is always important but even more so now. If your child is late, this impacts on their learning time but also on the planned logistics of staggered starts and puts others at risk. If you are unavoidably late e.g. medical appointment then you must report to the office by phoning the school number and a member of staff will take your child into school.

School Uniform and Equipment



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School uniform will be expected to be worn when the school re-opens in September. Children should only bring a water bottle, coat, packed lunch (if applicable) and a healthy snack.

On PE days, children should come to school wearing their PE kit. PE kits should not be sent into school separately. See the timetable below so you know your child's scheduled PE days. As we cannot give out spare PE kits, if your child does not wear their PE kit to school, they will be required to take part in the PE lesson in their uniform.

Ash Class	PE: Mondays
Pine Class	PE: Mondays and Thursdays
Oak Class	PE: Mondays and Thursdays

Reading books will be able to be taken home along with the reading diary for parents to keep a record of reading at home. **We will be issuing sets of books, which should only be returned on a Monday with the reading diary.** This will allow us to 'quarantine' each set of books before reissuing them to another child and prevent contamination. Children will take part in guided reading and 1:1 reading sessions in school as usual, but these books will remain in school.

Communication

Teachers are still unable to meet face-to-face with parents. All communication will need to be through the normal channels e.g. a phone call, an email. The school office remains closed for face-to-face interactions unless there is an emergency. Any letters that parents want to hand in should be dropped in the post box by the purple gates or sent in with your child.

I will be running half termly parent forum meetings via Microsoft Teams and you can find dates for these below. We will be holding parent consultations in October and we will confirm the format these will take nearer the time.

Wraparound Care

Wraparound will be open every day for the usual hours from 3rd September. You will need to book and pay for your child's place in advance as there are limited places to begin with and we cannot accept cash payments (see separate wraparound letter and booking form sent in last week of term). Parents will need to drop off and pick up from the side door and will not be able to enter the school building at any time. Please be considerate of other parents and ensure there is only one adult dropping off at a time as the entrance is very narrow.

Symptoms

If your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 at home, do NOT send your child into school. They must be tested, which can be booked here: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-acoronavirus-test>

If your child displays any symptoms at school, you will be called and be required to collect your child immediately. They will be kept isolated from others and must be taken for a test. The rest of the bubble will remain in school unless the unwell child tests positive. If a child tests positive, the whole bubble will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Further guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Pastoral Support



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We are aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for some children. Please let us know if you think they might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back. We always focus on transition at the beginning of term. Following lockdown, there will be a greater emphasis on this to help support anxieties, re-adjust to full time schooling and learn routines.

As you are aware, guidance is changing regularly and any current information is always subject to change. We will endeavour to communicate with you regularly through newsletters and Parentmail to keep you updated.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received from you and look forward to working together with you over this academic year.

Kind regards,
Mrs Bridgman

Key Dates for autumn term:

Please note that these may be subject to change and some activities will be risk assessed nearer the time to check they can still go ahead.

Tuesday 15 th September	7.30pm Parent Forum via Microsoft Teams
Friday 18 th September	2pm SEND Coffee Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Thursday 1 st October	Start of Black History Month
Friday 2 nd October	Harvest Worship for children (if we are able to invite parents, we will)
Tuesday 13 th October	Parent Consultations (arrangements TBC)
Friday 23 rd October	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3 rd November	KS2 Faith Tour
Tuesday 3 rd November	7.30pm Parent Forum via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 10 th November	BMX Growth Mindset day in school
Friday 13 th November	2pm SEND Coffee Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Thursday 26 th November	Artshed workshops in school
Monday 30 th November	INSET DAY
Tuesday 8 th December	Christmas Service for children (if we are able to invite parents, we will)
Friday 18 th December	1.15pm End of Term



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Term Dates 2020 - 2021

Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2 September - Friday 18 December 2020

(Pupils return to school on Thursday 3 September 2020)

Half-Term – Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2020

INSET DAY – Monday 30th November

(Break up on Thursday 22 October 2019 and return to school on Monday 2 November 2020)

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4 January – Friday 26 March 2021

(Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5 January 2021)

Half-Term - Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2021

(Break up on Friday 12 February 2020 and pupils return to school on Monday 22 February 2021)

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12 April – Thursday 22 July 2021

(Pupils return to school on Tuesday 13th April 2020 and finish on Wednesday 21st July)

Half-Term - Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2021

(Break up on Friday 28 May 2020 and return to school on Monday 7 June 2020)

Inset Days x 5

Wednesday 2 September 2020

Friday 23 October 2020

Monday 30th November 2020

Monday 4 January 2021

Monday 12 April 2021

Occasional Day x 1

Thursday 22 July