



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMERLEA C.P. SCHOOL

WINDSOR DRIVE, RUSTINGTON

WEST SUSSEX, BN16 3SW

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'Growing thoughtful learners and independent thinkers'



Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week. Thank you for your co-operation and support in ensuring a safe return for all members of our school community. We have also really appreciated your informal feedback and this has been invaluable in helping us to improve our systems where necessary.

The children have returned looking very smart and they have certainly grown since the last time I saw most of them! It is truly delightful to hear the sound of children playing, laughing and learning together once again and I have felt very proud of how well everyone has settled back in. A special mention to our new starters in EYFS and also other year groups; it is a pleasure to welcome you to our school and I am trying to learn names as quickly as possible!

Communication

If you have a question or concern about your child please speak to their class teacher initially and after this the Phase Leader. If you have a safeguarding concern, please speak to Mrs Strong (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or email dsl@summerleaschool.co.uk. I will usually be on duty outside at the start and end of each day should you wish to speak to me directly, alternatively you can make an appointment via the school office.

Following the successful launch of Class Dojo last term, we are pleased that we will be continuing to use it this academic year, albeit in a slightly different way now that school is re-open to all children. Please do continue to add to your child's portfolio and teachers will also do the same if there is something they particularly want to share and celebrate with you. School Story and Class Stories will also be used to post any messages, news and reminders as appropriate. Now that all teachers have returned to work and are busy teaching all day, they will not be as active on Class Dojo as previously. You are still welcome to send them a direct message but if you have something important or urgent to communicate then please contact the office as teachers will not be in a position to reply and respond immediately.

Calendar of dates

Usually at this point in the new academic year we would publish a calendar of dates for the term. Due to current restrictions and government guidance, the only dates we are in a position to share with you at the moment are our planned INSET days for the remainder of this year.



School will be closed for INSET on Friday 18th December 2020, Monday 22nd February 2021 and Monday 7th June 2021. Further information about other key dates and events will follow in due course. Please note term dates are available to view via our website by going to School Information > Term Dates.

Start and end of the day

As you will be aware, we are currently operating a staggered start and finish as per government guidance, along with a one-way system. Please do stick to the appropriate time slot wherever possible to help alleviate congestion on the school site. A reminder to EYFS parents that next week, children in Reception will be able to arrive in the 8.30-8.40am slot with Key Stage 1, unless they have an older sibling in the school in Key Stage 2, in which case they should arrive at either 8.40-8.50am (Year 3 and 4) or 8.50-9.00am (Year 5 and 6).

Now that everyone has got used to this new system, we will be asking any late arrivals (after 9am) to sign in at the office. Please leave the site as quickly as possible and adhere to social distancing rules. The area outside Year 2 and EYFS can get particularly busy so follow any instructions you are given by staff on duty and be mindful of the safest places to stand and wait. We have also been liaising with our school crossing patrol with regards to the Worthing Road as we are aware the pavements can also get busy at these peak times so please do take care and remember to socially distance even if this means waiting, taking a different route or crossing in a different place. We are putting our trust in everyone to do the sensible and right thing to keep everyone safe.

Linked to this, a reminder that we have asked that only **one** adult come on to the premises to drop off or pick up their child/ren. Please respect this rule to help us keep the number of people on site to a minimum.

A few important reminders

- Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school everyday as our water fountains are currently out of use.
- Please remember to provide a spoon in your child's packed lunch if they have a yoghurt (or similar).
- Children should also have a waterproof coat with them every day. We do like to take learning outdoors when possible so please ensure children are in appropriate footwear - trainers can be worn but these must be plain black.
- Children scooting or cycling to school must dismount before coming onto the school premises. (This also includes younger siblings.) This is a long-standing rule in place for the safety of all members of our school community. Thank you for your support.

Temperatures

Anyone with a temperature/fever must stay away from school until there has been 48 hours without one and a negative test result.

PE days

On PE days children should come to school wearing their PE kit. The PE timetable for this half term is as follows:

Year 1: Wednesday and Friday

Year 2: Monday and Thursday

Year 3: Monday and Friday

Year 4: Wednesday and Friday

Year 5: Monday and Wednesday

Year 6: Tuesday and Thursday

Children may wear jogging bottoms with a school jumper in colder weather.

After School Care Club

I am pleased to be able to let you know that ASCC will be re-opening from Monday 21st September 3.00-5.00pm term time only. Please note the earlier finish time. Further communication about arrangements will follow next week and be sent to parents that responded to the ASCC survey and requested a place. If you didn't complete the survey and would like a place for your child please contact the office.

Staffing news

Congratulations to Mrs Conrad and her husband who welcomed a beautiful baby boy into their lives at the start of the summer holidays. We are really pleased to welcome three new Midday Meal Supervisors to our school: Mrs Logan, Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Mortimer. We are also delighted to have appointed Mrs Dyke as the Deputy Manager for ASCC (a role she did previously) and she is very excited to be part of the team again. Mr Burrows has taken the decision to relinquish his role as Lower Key Stage Phase leader (but will remain in post as Class Teacher in Year 4) to allow him more time with his family. As such, Mrs Strong (Deputy Headteacher) is over-seeing Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) this half term whilst we look to put other arrangements in place.

Residentials

Traditionally, children in Year 4 and Year 6 have had the opportunity to attend a residential trip. Government guidance currently stipulates that overnight school visits cannot take place. As such, we are unable to pursue provisional arrangements regarding residentials at the moment, however, should guidance change we will be in touch and communicate with parents about this before finalising any plans.

Jeans for Genes Day

We usually support this charity to help raise money to support vulnerable children in the UK affected by a genetic disorder. This year, we will not be asking children to wear jeans or non-uniform to school but if you would like to donate please put a suggested voluntary contribution of £1 in a marked envelope and pass on to the office by Friday next week.

West Sussex Mind

The West Sussex Mind training team are running a session on Demand Avoidance later this month. Please visit our website for further information (Our School > Inclusion and SEND > Demand Avoidance).

Secondary School Transfer

At the start of this week, Year 6 parents were sent some important information about secondary school transfer. This is also available via our website (News and Events > Letters > Year Group Letters > Year 6 Letters). The deadline for applications is Saturday 31st October. If you require any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact us via the office.

Return to School Questionnaire

Thank you for returning the return to school questionnaire attached to previous update letters. If you wish to complete one of these for your child please ensure you have handed them to your child's class teacher by Monday next week. Hard copies are available from the office on request.

I hope your child/ren have enjoyed the first week back at school. Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely

Helen Morris

Mrs Helen Morris
Headteacher