



Children are at the centre of everything we do

Monday 7 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It was lovely to see everyone back at school last week looking smart in their school uniform. There were lots of smiles from the children and the parents! A warm welcome to those families that are new to Greenway.

The Greenway Summer Camp was an amazing success. A big thank you to Mr Lewis and Mrs Clutson who led and organised all the art and sport activities. I know that parents really appreciated the service and the children were delightful and very happy!

I wanted to write to you with some updates about the start of term.

New letter heading

You will see that we have changed our letter heading! The Governing body as part of its strategic role re-reviewed the school values and we wanted to have a more corporate look to our communications. Thank you to Mrs Fiona Duck in providing a range of styles for us to choose from. I hope you like it!

Routines

Please can I ask that you support your children in getting back into their routines. Having a good night's sleep, setting times for screen time and supporting your child with a positive mindset for returning to school will help all of us. I have been so impressed with the children's positive attitude but I do know that they were very tired at the end of last week after just two days in school. Listening and concentrating for periods of time for some children was a shock but was completely understandable!

Dropping off and picking up

Thank you for all working with us and providing a smooth transition for your children into school. The aim is for Nursery and Reception parents also to drop off their children at the gate by the end of the week. Please can I remind everyone that you must not congregate on Crossways and please do try and socially distance. We do need to be respectful of our local residents. Thank you.

School uniform – Indoor shoes

Please can we ask you to purchase a pair of indoor shoes for your children. In the information that we sent to you at the end of last term we said that children would just need one pair of shoes. However as we now are entering the Autumn term and the weather is changing, please can children have a pair of labelled black plimsolls for their indoor shoes, which will protect our school flooring from the children's dirty/muddy outdoor shoes. If we can sort this by next **Monday 14 September** that would be appreciated!

Welcome to your new class

In previous years at Greenway we have held a Welcome to your New Class event for parents early on in the autumn term. This is an important meeting where you can meet your child's teacher, find out

about their timetable and other practical matters and understand the systems in place to support your child. This event also includes the Head's presentation. Due to COVID restrictions this will not be able to take place in this format. The staff and I are looking at ways in which we can effectively communicate with you during these unusual times. My presentation will be videoed and uploaded to the website, along with teachers powerpoints. We are aiming to do this by the end of next week and we will confirm this with you.

Yoga

As part of our commitment to supporting children's mental health and well-being, we have arranged for all classes to have a weekly yoga session starting from next week. A letter setting out the details of this will be sent to you later today. We cannot wait to start!

Snacks/Packed lunches

The government scheme that provides a healthy snack for children in Nursery, Reception, Yr1 and Yr 2 is still not up and running due to COVID. Therefore all children need to bring in a healthy snack i.e. fresh fruit/vegetables, a small quantity of dried fruit or – for those who need a bit more energy – a simple carbohydrate such as bread sticks or plain rice cakes. Please can I remind you that snacks **should not** contain any nuts or chocolate.

We are in discussion with Herts Catering as to how we can offer hot school dinners and enable children to access these under COVID restrictions in school. We will let you know once arrangements are in place.

Individual Photographs – Monday 14 September

Children will be having their individual school photograph taken during the morning of Monday 14 September. Siblings (only those siblings that attend Greenway) will have their photograph taken first and then the other children who are in their year groups will have their individual photograph taken. We want to ensure that the bubbles remain consistent during the day and between each year group, equipment will be cleaned.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with school via admin@greenway.herts.sch.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards

Katharine Ellwood
Headteacher