

# Grove Street Primary and Nursery School



Grove Street, New Ferry, CH62 5BA

Headteacher: Mrs L Walsh

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Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear parents/ carers,

As we reach the end of a very strange term, I wanted to write to you with some updates and share some plans for September with you.

## **Goodbye and good luck to our Year 6**

We are excited to be able to see all of our Year 6 children on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 1-3pm for a leavers' celebration party**. They have been a fabulous cohort and coped amazingly well with the pandemic. Our Year 6 teachers have been in contact with their new high school and made sure they know how fabulous they all are. We wish all our Year 6s a happy summer and a smooth transition to high school.

## **Staffing**

Denise Bowe (admin team) is retiring this summer after many years of being totally dedicated to our school. We thank her for all her hard work and wish her a very happy and restful retirement.

Charlotte Pickstock (Year 1 / Nursery) has been appointed as Year 1 teacher at St Josephs - it is a wonderful opportunity for her to have her own class. We thank Charlotte for her amazing teaching and care and wish her every success in her new school.

As Year 1 is a very small cohort, we could have just one teacher, however, to help to ease the children back in during the Autumn term, Miss Ellis and Mrs Ellison (Monday to Wednesday) will continue to teach Year 1 and Miss Colley will teach Thursday and Friday. The children will be in two classes during the morning and in the afternoon children will be in one class with children receiving interventions (SEND, Emotional support, Phonics, Reading, Maths).

We are delighted to welcome Mr Jordan Scott as a sports coach, to teach alongside Mr Matthews. I know they will be a fantastic team for our children and will be teaching PE and mental health from our two year olds up to Year 6.

I would like to thank all our staff for their hard work and care for all our children and families during the pandemic. It has been very different to adapt to teaching in Bubbles and to try and provide support for our families, being resourceful and creative to find alternative ways to provide support e.g. food vouchers, food parcels and emotional support.

## **Books**

There has been a phenomenal response to our Amazon wish list with over 100 books being purchased in the first few days, thank you! Please continue to share the link far and wide.

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/172DEIU8SUJQY?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/172DEIU8SUJQY?ref=wl_share)

## Improvement to our school learning environment

We have been working hard as a team to paint and improve all the classrooms around school and are making sure all children have a calm, cosy area and that school feels 'homely' to ease the transition back into school in September.

## Thank you to parents

I would like to thank all of our parents and families for their valued support during the pandemic, I've loved hearing from so many of you via Dojo and seeing photos of your children (and new babies too!). Your kind words have meant so much to all the staff and to me personally. I'd also like to thank you for your passion and dedication to fundraising which have included funding an end of term party (in bubbles) for key worker children, catering for the Year 6 celebration, soft furnishings for our school and general bargain hunting items for our outdoors!

## Arrangements for September

We are so excited that all our children will be returning on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**. We have a detailed recovery plan in place, the mental health and wellbeing of our children is paramount and our first priority when children return to school. We understand that it is more important now than ever that our children have smooth transitions and sufficient time to settle back into school life due to the recent changes our children have had to adapt to. The plan also includes how we will assess and address any gaps in learning, particularly in phonics, reading and maths. Children will have our fabulous ELSAs for group and individual mental health support, we also have a Mental Health Support Team (NHS / CAMHS) who will be in school every Tuesday to support children as will the counsellor from the ADHD foundation.

The Government have issued extensive guidance in regards to safety, I will upload the revised Covid-19 risk assessment to our website but I'll highlight a few points below.

- **Children will be in key stage 'Bubbles'** this will allow for Read, Write, Inc. groups to continue. Bubbles will not mix during playtime, lunchtime, arrival and collection.
- **Children will be in school uniform**, try to minimise bringing in personal items from home. Extensive handwashing procedures will continue from entrance into school and throughout the day. Older children will be sat at front facing desks.
- As per the **Government guidance, parents and visitors will not be able to come into the school building without an appointment**. We will have times for parents of our 2s, Nursery and Reception children to come in with their children to ensure they have a calm, settled start to school.
- For children who will need emotional support (e.g. ELSA) or have particular SEND needs, we will be very flexible and may opt for a part-time settling in period. We will, of course, discuss this with you to work together on an individual transition plan that is right for your child.
- **Each bubble will have a separate entrance into school** for drop off and pick up. Many schools are using staggered start and end times to keep Bubbles apart, however, we feel we can manage this through separate entrances as we have for the key worker Bubbles.
- **All teachers will greet children at the gates each morning and will see the children off at the gates at the end of the day**. This will ensure you can still talk to your child's teacher every day.
- **I will be on the gates each morning (or an Assistant Headteacher)** to greet our families.
- **Lunch arrangements**: children will be in their Bubble, there will be a one way system and a reduced number of chairs at each table. Different Bubbles will not be eating together. KS2 playground will continue to be zoned to separate Bubbles.

## Entrances for Bubbles in September

Year Group	Drop off time and place	Pick up time and place	
Little Learners (2 year olds)	8.45 – 9.00am (morning session) Main entrance (near staff car park)  12.15pm – 12.30pm (afternoon session) Main entrance (near staff car park)	11.30am – 11.45am Main entrance (near staff car park)  3pm – 3.15pm Main entrance (near staff car park)	Parents can come to the gate of Little Learners outdoor area
Nursery	8.45 – 9.00am (morning session) Main entrance (near staff car park)  12.00pm – 12.15pm (afternoon session) Main entrance (near staff car park)	11.30am – 11.45am Main entrance (near staff car park)  2.45pm – 3.00pm Main entrance (near staff car park)	Parents can come to the gate of Nursery outdoor area
Reception	8.45am – 9.00am Main entrance (near staff car park)	3.00pm Main entrance (near staff car park)	Parents can come to the gate of Reception outdoor area
Year 1	8.45am – 9.00am KS1 playground entrance	3.00pm KS1 playground entrance	Parents can come to the Year 1 classroom entrance zone (but not into the classroom)
Year 2	8.45am – 9.00am KS1 playground entrance	3.00pm KS1 playground entrance	Parents to hand over children to teachers at KS1 playground entrance
Year 3	8.45am – 9.00am KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)	3.00pm KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)	Parents to hand over children to teachers at KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)
Year 4	8.45am – 9.00am KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)	3.00pm KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)	Parents to hand over children to teachers at KS2 playground entrance (next to Bungalow)
Year 5	8.45am – 9.00am KS2 playground entrance (far end)	3.00pm KS2 playground entrance (far end)	Parents to hand over children to teachers at KS2 playground entrance (far end)
Year 6	8.45am – 9.00am KS2 playground entrance (far end)	3.00pm KS2 playground entrance (far end)	Parents to hand over children to teachers at KS2 playground entrance (far end)

Many thanks again for your ongoing support and patience. Have a lovely, safe summer, see you all in September.

Mrs Walsh (Head Teacher)

