



## Hermes – Our School Newsletter - Michaelmas Term



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Dear Parents

I would like to welcome all of our new children – this week in particular, the new starters arriving in Reception and Nursery. If you watch Downtown Abbey you will know this quote – ‘I think the more adaptable we are, the more chance we have of getting through.’ Cora Crawley – Lady Grantham. This is our mentality as we move forward in order to ensure we get the best plans and systems in place for the children.

Whilst the challenges of returning a primary school and secondary school back in the same geographical location has been testing at times, I have been impressed with the patience, creativity and resourcefulness of parents in bringing their children to school. Many parents have found good locations to park, away from school, and are being thoughtful to others. We do have some parents who are not parking wisely around the school but hopefully this will change soon. Arrivals at different doors means that we can minimise the volume of those picking up around the grounds and enabling social distancing. It is, in various cases, making it a calm start for those dropping off.

As with most new routines, children are beginning to get into habits without too much fuss. This is resulting in our lessons getting back to so form of normality. Lunches have proven to be the hardest to get right, although we are now in a rhythm with this too.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support as we do all we can to return the children’s education back to normal.

Kindest regards,  
Mr Jones

Honesty

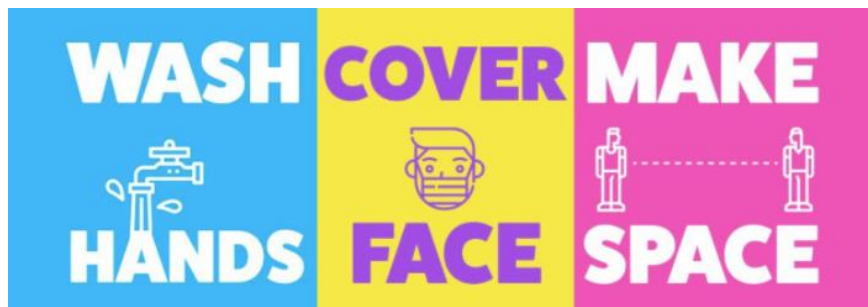
Trust

Responsibility

Perseverance

Respect





It is important to state that whilst we now have another Government slogan, it would be very easy to become complacent and ignore the new advice. We are mindful that at any point we may have to isolate classes or the whole school, should cases emerge in the community.

Please be mindful of the new regulations, saying they are confusing is not an excuse for relaxing social distancing rules. This is also essential when considering inviting friends, organising parties and gatherings together as well as dropping off and picking up children.

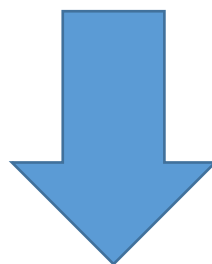
Limits on the number of people you can see socially are changing. From Monday 14 September, when meeting friends and family you do not live with you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors.

From 14 September - when the new rules apply - it will be against the law to meet people you do not live with in a group larger than 6 (unless you are meeting as a household or support bubble). The police will have the powers to enforce these legal limits, including to issue fines (fixed penalty notice) of £100, doubling for further breaches up to a maximum of £3,200.

Exemptions can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4554nng>



I am vividly aware that that families and individuals within families are on different journeys when it comes to their levels of anxiety relating to returning children to school, health issues and social distancing. I appreciate that the last few months have been challenging and returning to work is a relief to some parents and a source of anxiety for others. Being candid, this manifests itself in different attitudes regarding responses to the usual colds, sickness and other health issues we see each day in school. It is therefore important to clarify a few key issues



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## COVID-19 symptoms



It is important that all of us – including those who make up the community around a school - are vigilant for the symptoms of COVID-19 and understand what actions we should take if someone develops them, either at school or at home.

The main symptoms to be aware of are:

- **new** continuous cough
- fever/high temperature (**37.8 degrees C or above**)
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

If a young person or a child in your care develops any of the above symptoms, they should self-isolate and you should book them a test as soon as possible. CALL 119.

## Cold-like symptoms



If, however, your child does not have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, **they do not need to be tested** and they and you do not need to self-isolate. Your child can go to school if fit to do so.



Please show kindness and understanding during this time. Parents are making important decisions about their child attending school if they are ill. Importantly, please do not pressure friends, other families or make people uncomfortable about this decision if you have heard someone has a cold etc...

## Netball Club



Netball club has begun this week on Thursdays from 3:15pm to 4:15pm with children being picked up at the junior steps. Danny Harper will be leading this session for Year 5 and 6. Children have signed up and we are looking forward to seeing the children take part. We have announced this to the children and we are pleased to say the group **is now full**.



**We are tightening our rules on face masks and insisting that all visiting parents/relatives to the school office wear a face mask please.**

**Ideally, can you please call or email to continue social distancing and minimising adults in school.**

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We are trying to ensure all junior children have login details and are actively taken part. This is a very exciting and intuitive app which will understand your child's ability in maths and challenge them accordingly. Please do encourage a quick 10 minutes per day. We have seen and heard from other schools, how transformative taking part in this app can be – it really does compliment the teaching in school. Teachers receive good feedback about the child's maths from this also which helps with understanding their successes and gaps in learning. Pupils do initial tasks when logging in at first and then the app sets the challenges after that.

All children should have a login now – let the class teacher know if there is a problem.

**Last chance ordering for reduced rate – School Hoodies**



You will be aware that we are asking children to wear brightly coloured tops for PE. We have arranged for a discounted hoodie and this offer lasts for two more weeks. Please can you order online for any PE kit.



You may be aware that some hoodies were delayed. Many arrived this week along with additional jumpers. I believe the Coniston Corporate are doing their best to get the orders ASAP – within the next two weeks.



**We will remind children to take bottle home. Please bring the bottle back, clean each day.**

