



Our Ref: AJC/MS

4 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Welcome Back

Firstly, I would like to welcome everyone back! It has been a fantastic week and we are all delighted to see the children again. Generally, everything has gone very smoothly, despite the many changes to procedures for us all. Can I thank you for your tremendous co-operation and support which has helped the last three days run so successfully.

Attendance:

On Friday 4 September, 95% of our pupils attended, which is very pleasing. Can I thank you all again for your support in returning the children to the Academy, following the lengthy lockdown period.

I'd like to welcome the many new children and their families who have recently joined us. We have had an influx of applications from new children, which is very pleasing – over 20 new applications over the last few months, in addition to our new starters in Reception.

I just wanted to clarify a few things to help next week go well, with all pupils returning from Monday morning.

Staggered Start and End to the Day:

Thank you to the vast majority of you who have stuck rigidly to these times. From Monday, can I please ask everyone to make sure they are arriving at the correct time and once your child has entered the gates, if you could leave as quickly as possible. This is to ensure there is as little congestion outside the gates as possible.

This week, there have been large groups of parents closely huddled together at the gates. Whilst this is understandable to an extent as it is a procedure we are all unfamiliar with, can I please ask you to ensure, as far as possible, that you keep distance between yourselves and other families – purely for your own protection.

Please see below for a reminder of the new times:

Year Group	Entrance Point	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Early Years: Nursery (all day children)	KS1 Playground Gate	8.45am	3.30pm
Early Years: Nursery (morning only children)	KS1 Playground Gate	8.45am	11.45pm
Early Years: Nursery (afternoon children only)	KS1 Playground Gate	12.30pm	3.30pm
Early Years: Reception	KS1 Playground Gate	8.55am	3.10pm
Years 1 and 2	KS1 Playground Gate	8.55am	3.20pm
Years 3 and 4	Main Car Park Gate	8.55am	3.20pm
Years 5 and 6	Side Car Park Gate	8.45am	3.30pm

Please note, we have made one change to the above timetable, regarding the collection time for pupils in Reception. Where possible, it would be useful if parents could arrive at **3.10pm** to allow the pupils to leave before the KS1 pupils. However, where you have older siblings or this may be inconvenient, 3.20pm is fine, as previously stated.

One or two parents have asked why a few children are allowed in before these times. This is because they have siblings in other year groups. For example, as stated previously, if you have a child in Year 1 and Year 6, it is fine to bring both children in at 8.45am to the Year 6 entrance.

Bubbles/Classes:

This has worked very well this week but is something new to both the children and staff. I just wanted to remind you that we have managed to organise the day to ensure that children remain within their bubble for all lessons, break and lunchtimes, apart from a minority of pupils who receive specialist provision, where separate regulations are in place.

Please see below for the new classes and staff for this year. I will alert you to any changes that might occur in the future:

Year	Class	Teachers	Teaching Assistants
FS1	Earth/Sun/ Moon	Mrs Stamford	Miss Barrass (Thu & Fri) Mrs Copley
FS2	Ceres	Miss Somerscales	Mrs King
1	Lyra	Miss Kapka Mrs Backrath	Mrs Evison
1/2	Cygnus	Miss Grayson	Miss Badics Mrs Senior
2	Indus	Miss Jennings	Mrs Farrell
3/4	Taurus	Miss Turner Mrs Portlock	Mrs Dale
3/4	Phoenix	Mrs S Brown Miss Evans	Mrs C Brown
4	Scorpius	Miss Stanhope	Miss Barrass (Mon, Tues, Weds) Miss Smith
5	Orion	Miss Gray	Mrs Blease
5/6	Tucana	Mrs Backhouse Mrs Ireson	Mrs Holmes
6	Columba	Mr Gibbon	Mrs Burniston
KS2 SEND		Mrs France Miss Evans	Mrs Davis Williams
French		Mrs France	
PE		Mrs Brown Mrs Portlock	

Can I take this opportunity to welcome back Miss Stanhope from Theddlethorpe Academy and Mrs Portlock from Reynolds Academy. In addition, welcome to Miss Gray and Mrs Holmes, who have joined our Year 5 & 6 team.

Contacting us:

Obviously, it is far more challenging than normal to speak to staff members. However, it is very important that we all stay in regular communication.

Teachers and Teaching Assistants will make you aware of any issues that arise during the day.

If you would like to speak to a member of staff about any matter, please either contact the main office, via telephone or send us an email via enquiries@pilgrimacademy.co.uk - this latter method is preferable, as we can then forward your query/request directly to the relevant member of staff.

Where you need to collect your child at a different time, for example, because they have a dentist appointment, it is vital that we know this in advance, as we would normally request. Can you please ensure that the main office is alerted, preferably using the email system. Where possible, can you please also attach a copy of the evidence. For example, this could be a scanned copy of a medical letter or a screenshot taken from your phone.

Frog:

Obviously, we are trying to limit the amount of items/paper etc. that travel between home and school. Therefore, we are currently looking at ways to support the children with reading and homework through Frog and other means. I will keep you updated with this.

The vast majority of the pupils will be familiar with Frog, our electronic learning environment. Staff will go through this with all the pupils, especially those new to the academy, over the next few weeks.

For further details, please go to our main website and visit the 'Student Zone- Frog' tab. If you have any questions, please contact your child's class teacher or Mr Gibbon, who is responsible for Computing and Digital Learning.

Lunches:

Again, can I please remind everyone that it is vital that lunches are ordered in advance for the children. This **includes** those who are entitled to a free school meal **and** those who receive a universal free meal as they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. Where a lunch has not been ordered, the catering team will not be expecting to provide a meal for that child.

If you would like any further information regarding the meals service, please use the enquiries email address and we will forward these to the Aspens catering team. There is also a help guide on our website, under the main Aspens tab.

Linked to the above, can I also remind everyone to provide the children with a drink bottle for the day, which should be taken home each day, washed, and then returned the following day.

Free School Meals:

Over the lockdown period, a number of families applied to the local council to see if they were eligible to receive free school meals for their children, many of whom found that they were.

If you would like any help or advice, if you think that you might be eligible, please contact us. It is a very simple process, which could provide you with free meals for your children. This also brings in valuable funding for the Academy, which is all used to support the education of the children.

Safeguarding:

If you have any questions or concerns, relating to safeguarding matters, please do not hesitate to contact:

- Miss Plumtree, Vice Principal and Designated Safeguarding Officer.
- Mrs France, Assistant Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer.

Both can be reached via the main office on **01469 572368**.

Special Educational Needs:

If you have any questions or concerns, relating to special educational needs, please contact:

- Mrs France, Assistant Principal and SEND co-ordinator.

Early Years:

It is an exciting time for our new children in Nursery and Reception. Obviously, we have not been able to enact our normal transition procedures, though it was wonderful that so many of you were able to attend for a brief tour on Tuesday 1 September. If you have any questions at all about Early Years, please contact:

- Miss Somerscales, Assistant Principal and Early Years Lead.

Applications for Secondary Schools:

Believe it or not, this process will start shortly for our new Year 6 pupils and their families. This week, we have received some documentation and information from the local authority. We will be contacting Year 6 families over the next week with further information.

Pilgrim's Progress:

Despite the disruption to the year, we still managed to produce our annual review magazine, which is very full, showcasing the many wonderful achievements from last year. There is a copy for all children which we will send home next week.

And Finally:

It has been and continues to be such a strange time for us all. It is important that we all do whatever we can to get back to normality again for our children. I said to some of the classes, that we feel like a school again as the most important people have returned – the children. Can I thank you again for your on-going support and please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of staff if you wish to discuss any matter.

Yours faithfully



Mr A J Clark
Principal