



Abingdon Primary School

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Newsletter Friday 11th September 2020

Dates for your diary:

Fri 7th Oct – Hello Yellow mental health awareness day (more info to follow)
Tues 10th and Thurs 10th Nov – parent/carer consultations (Y1 – Y6 telephone)

Welcome Back!

A HUGE 'Welcome Back' to all of our Abingdon Family, especially our children who we are thrilled to have back in school. It is so wonderful to see them settled in so well and showing just how resilient they are in acclimatising to school life – albeit a little differently. Thank you to all the parents and carers for following our new systems for entry and exit of premises.

As a reminder we expect that ALL adults on site:

- **Stay 2m apart unless they are wearing a face mask (then it is the 1m 'plus' rule) and with the rise in Covid cases we would recommend wearing a mask whilst on site and queuing**
- **Keep to their allocated drop off and collection times (see below for sibling drop off tweaks)**
- **Follow the one way system around school**

From Monday 14th September, we are able to bring the second entry start times a little closer together:

Children's Centre Gate entry	Staff Car Park entry
8:40am/3.00pm Reception	8:45am LKS2 (Years 3 and 4) 3.05pm
8:50am/3.10pm Y1 and Y2	8:55am UKS2 (Years 5 and 6) 3.15pm

Sibling drop off/Pick up

We are conscious that some parents have had to do a few loops of the building this week! And we do appreciate your patience with us whilst we tweak some of the new routines. So from Monday 14th September parents with more than one child can follow these routines: (Please just look for your family situation and I have put every scenario down!)

If you have a child in Reception and in KS1:

Join the KS1 line and drop your Reception child off with their teacher on the way round

If you have a child in Reception and a KS2 class:

You will have to join the Reception line and then their KS2 line.

If you have a child in KS1 and LKS2

Join the LKS2 line to drop off and then make a line by the bike shelter to go around the building to the KS1 class

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If you have a child in KS1 and UKS2

As you go through the gate to the KS1 classrooms, give your UKS2 child to the staff on the gate and they will see them into the hall.

If you have a child in LKS2 or UKS2

Send them both in to the hall at the UKS2 time

Pick up will follow the same pattern

This way everyone is still following the one way systems, but should not have to do more than one loop of the school!

If you cannot work out what to do for your family as you have more than 2 children, please just give the office a ring or ask a member of staff.

I know it may all seem unnecessarily complicated, but our guidance from the government is to have as few people on site as possible at any one time to minimise contact, which is why we must do it in this way.

Electronic Mailing System – ‘paperless’

As we look towards becoming more eco-friendly and also more economical, Abingdon Primary School is going paperless where possible. This means that newsletters, letters and messages will be sent electronically in the majority of cases. School forms will be completed via the website, emails will be sent to parents/carers to share any communication items. These will also be available under the ‘Letters’ section of the website. It is therefore essential that we have an up to date email address for parents and carers. Please contact the school office if you have changed any of your contact details so that we can update our records.

Cashless Payment System

We are in the process of setting up our new cashless payment system using the school spider website. We are finalising the details and will let you know. Please keep a look out for updates.

Book Challenge

Very exciting times are imminent following the school’s purchase of hundreds of new books for children to read. We have set up an exciting Book Challenge where children of any age in the school can join and read books to complete the challenge. There will be four stages: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Children will have the opportunity to change their book each week and receive recognition and prizes for their reading. We have spent a great deal of money on the new books and see it as an invaluable investment for our children, as the books will encourage children to travel around the world through reading whilst reflecting our fantastic, diverse community. All children who get involved will receive an introductory badge and there will be a launch in school coming shortly. A separate letter will be sent out to those children who want to join the Book Challenge.

Healthy Lifestyles Group and Gardening Equipment

We have a new greenhouse and planters ready for our children to fill them with plants and produce. We are going to start with a small group of children planting and tending to our garden area initially and then expand to classes. Thank you to members of the community who have donated items already. If you have any spare gardening equipment or any plants/produce, then we would be very grateful to receive them. Please bring any items to the office. Thank you.

Magic Breakfast Bagels

We have been very busy this week starting our new Magic Breakfast where all children receive a bagel upon entry to the school (or alternative if they have allergies). They are becoming a firm favourite with our children and we are so pleased to be able to offer them in school.

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Absence

Unfortunately, Mrs Clark is going to be off school for a few weeks as she is unwell. Please be assured that it is **not** Covid related, and I will be Acting Headteacher in her absence, so school will continue as normal. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her very soon.

Attendance

A huge 'well done' to all of our children who are coming in every day. If your child is feeling anxious or you want to speak to somebody about their attendance then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Enjoy the weekend.

Ms Flanders
Deputy Headteacher

