

11th September 2020

Dear Parents,

As you will have seen, we have made little changes to the procedure for the children as they come in and leave school. We are being as scrupulous as we can be about keeping the pods apart and this is working well. Happily, the good weather is helping social distancing as the children are able to have some lessons outside as well as the usual PE and Forest School. I believe this has also made it easier for our fifteen new children to settle.

Before school provision and After School Homework Club for the older children is also working well with teachers supervising each pod. Pre-Covid I know many of the children would be playing together outside on the grass after school, but this is obviously not possible just now as we try to keep the children distanced from pods other than their own.

Following the survey we sent out in June to find out how home learning was for parents during lock down, we have put together a plan tweaking what we would do should we need to implement home learning again. I hope we never need to, but I do like to be prepared. The feedback showed that it was a different story for each family depending on the age of the child, and whether parents were trying to work from home at the same time. Uncertainty about what was expected seemed to be a concern so we have therefore colour coded lessons so they are A) mandatory, B) expected unless there is reason not to, or C) activities available for those who want their children to take part. Only parents can know how much screen time or set activities are right for their child from day to day. Let us hope the country can avoid such a comprehensive lockdown again.

Twice in my six years at Fosse a derogatory post has been put on social media and I have them removed. It is a sad fact well known to Head Teachers that many schools, both independent and state now have to manage such matters. I would ask that if anyone is ever worried by such a post they ask me about it so that I can put minds at rest about any unfounded comments.

On a happier topic, our school theme, begun last spring, is '*Making a difference in the world*'. That world can be the classroom, locally, or globally for those children who can think that big. The six traits which sum up what staff and children decided we wanted to be so to make that *difference* are thoughtful, inquisitive, resilient, diligent, responsible and collaborative. This term children from Reception to Year 6 all have a place at school where evidence of these traits will be recorded with stickers. (stickers are always a good incentive!) We know that most children display these traits much of the time, but this is to celebrate how they think and behave.

Please be advised that invoices for Early Years Holiday Club go live on ParentMail today and the deadline for these to be paid is 9.00am on 25th September 2020.

At the moment either summer or winter uniform is right for school but please would you ensure that clothes are named. Everyone wears winter uniform after half term, but we will be having individual and class photographs taken on 29th September for which the children need to wear winter uniform.

Best wishes,

Alison Cordingley

Headteacher