



It has been so lovely to have the children back in school and everyone is clearly enjoying being together again! Thank you all for supporting your children's smooth return to the school routine over the last few weeks. We appreciate that it can sometimes be challenging getting everyone out of the door on time every morning after this long lockdown, but it has made a huge difference that the children are ready and on time. While we are wishing for the classes to fully mix again, to have celebration events in the hall and to re start our community singing for example, unfortunately we must wait a little longer. Even though we are back together we still need to keep everyone safe and social distancing, the wearing of masks and lateral flow testing are all still very much part of our daily life.

Now we are all back, many parents have asked how they can help their child. We would recommend recognising and celebrating your child's many positive qualities and achievements, thus supporting them to feel confident and successful. We would also recommend reading. Reading for our Infant children is the key to future learning and the best way to set your child up for life!

Don't forget that our virtual Parents Evenings are this week as well and we look forward to sharing how your child is settling and learning.



Book Week



At home and in school, we enjoyed celebrating Book Week last week. It was lovely to see the children and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters on Friday. During the week, children took part in various reading activities. We hope you enjoyed the photos on our Twitter feed.

We are really pleased to be working towards our **Global Neighbours** Bronze Award for the rest of the year. Global Neighbours is an exciting school accreditation scheme run by Christian Aid. Our children will become more active in global citizenship and will have a sense of ownership and understanding of why they are taking a particular action. From litter picks and recycling, to raising money and campaigning for charities, we are going to working really hard this year to act as good global citizens. We want to encourage a deeper understanding of global injustice and the Christian response to it in our school.



Dogs

Please can we ask you **not to leave your dog unattended on the approaches to our school**. Unfortunately last week we had a serious incident where one of our children was bitten on the face while stopping to stroke a dog. The dog had been left tied up and unattended while the owner/s collected their child. Children often know not to stroke dogs unless asking the owner first, however they are naturally inquisitive and easily drawn to animals, especially if they are passing so close by. In addition to this we have the issue of adults and children pausing to stroke the dogs tied by the fence which makes social distancing and our one way system tricky to maintain. We ask therefore for your co operation and understanding in this matter and hope you will do your best to support his request.

Attendance and Unauthorised Holidays

The law relating to absence seems to be changing all the time. However, all local authorities have a Code of Practice for Attendance which all schools must still follow. This means:

- **issuing a Penalty Notice where the student has been:**
- absent without authorisation for 10 or more half-day sessions or 5 days in a 10 week period—these do not need to be consecutive: or
- late on 10 or more occasions in any 10 weeks—again these do not need to be consecutive.

We are unable to authorise any holiday including rearranged holidays during term time as this does not meet the criteria for exceptional circumstances.

Each penalty notice carries a £60 fine and can increase to £120 if not paid promptly. If the fine remains unpaid Hampshire County Council will consider prosecution for the non-attendance. Separate penalty notices are usually issued to both parents.

We do need you to be aware that if a penalty notice has previously been issued and there continues to be another period of unauthorised absence, school must refer the case to the **Attendance Legal Panel (ALP)** This legal panel will then decide whether to issue a subsequent penalty notice or recommend alternative intervention which may include parental prosecution.

Happy Easter!

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter and look forward to welcoming you all back after the holiday.



Friends of School

We would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to our lovely Friends of School for all their hard work raising funds for our school especially during these challenging times. The school library now has more books due to the Book Fair so thank you for supporting this.



The Easter Trail looks amazing, we hope the children enjoy finding the clues around Lymington. If you have not signed up for this yet, please contact Friends of School. The entry is £3.50.

Friends of School have also organised a Non-Uniform Day on 28th May. Donations are gratefully received and will go towards the next project.

Playground equipment.

We would like to explain why we do not allow children on the playground apparatus (or the stage) after school! In line with our school risk assessment, unfortunately we still have to rotate our playground equipment. Only one year group are able to use this for a certain period of time. We then have to have a gap of several days before another year group can use it. This is the reason we ask that you help us by holding onto younger children's hands or keeping them close by when you are on our school site and not allowing your children to play on the equipment after school. Thank you also to those of you who keep moving around our one way system and save your children's snacks until outside school! We really do appreciate this as it helps to keep things moving and also safe!

Early Help Hub

Many families, at different times, can need extra support for a variety of reasons. Most of this can be met through school support, nursery support or GP support. Sometimes families may need extra support through a more co-ordinated approach. The Early Help Service offers a range of support to families with children aged 0-19. There are a number of professionals who can offer help for example with behaviour, housing and finance, relationships, emotional and mental health among others. If you have a concern and need support, please do contact us. Mrs Bateman, our family Support Worker will be happy to have a chat and put you in touch with services who can help.

Mental health continues to be a priority, especially as restrictions still remain in place. The NHS have produced some very helpful tips and guidance to support improvement of mental health and well being this time and you may wish to take a look.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/>