



September Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! After a challenging time since lockdown in March we were delighted to finally open the school for everyone. The smiles on the children's faces confirmed that they were pleased to be back.

We have focused during these last few weeks on settling the children in. Introducing them to the safety measures in place, the one way system around school, staying in our bubbles, the routine of handwashing and practising social distancing where possible. The children have adapted very well to the new measures in place to reduce risks.

We are making every effort to ensure that our children continue to have access to an enriching curriculum of art, music, drama and PE in addition to academic subjects. We are reminding the children of our high expectations in terms of behaviour and effort and engagement in work.

Informal assessments confirm that many of you have supported your children very well with the work the teachers planned every day during lockdown. The gaps in their learning particularly in reading, phonics and key skills in maths are not as wide as we feared. A big thank you to you for all your efforts.

I would also like to thank the staff on your behalf for their tireless commitment to planning and organising daily activities throughout lockdown and supporting the children in school during that time in spite of having their own anxieties about their own families.

These past few months have been a challenge for us all and together we have got through it. However it would appear that our challenges are not over. I ask that you continue to work with us to reduce the risk of transmitting Covid and to keep us all as safe as possible. Remember to wear your mask and practise social distancing at drop off and pick up time.

Thank you for your cooperation. Keep safe.

Yours sincerely

J. E. Gregg

Mrs J E Gregg
Headteacher



Social Distancing Reminder & Drop Of/Pick Up Times

- Please wear face coverings at drop off and pick up
- all children to be picked up and dropped off by one adult
- All adults waiting to adhere to social distancing, standing 2m apart as indicated by markings
- Parents will not be allowed in school unless by prior arrangement
- Parents to contact school via phone/email, but can speak directly to Miss Jackson if needed.

	YR & Y1 Bubbles = Zone 1	Y2, Y3 & Y4 Bubbles = Zone 2	Y5 & Y6 = Zone 3
Drop Off Time	9.05am - 9.15am YR = Playground Gate Y1 = Playground Gate	8.50am - 9.05am Y2 = Playground Gate Y3 = Playground Gate Y4 = Playground Gate	8.40am - 8.50am Y5 = Playground Gate Y6 = Playground Gate
Pick Up Time	3.05pm	2.55pm (If home alone via front office)	2.45pm (If home alone via front office)
Siblings	Siblings will arrive and be collected at the same time		
Home Time	One way system in place. Parents enter through playground gate and leave playground through external door A and then leave school through front door or hall door		

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Parent Interviews



We are considering alternatives to the face to face meetings we would normally have in October. It is likely that teachers will arrange either a phone call or zoom type meeting with you to discuss your child's progress. I will confirm details as soon as I can.

Autumn Term Tuck (Fruit & Milk)

Tuck money is now due for the Autumn term. The amount is £15.00 (£13.00 for Reception) which will cover tuck from Thursday 3rd September until Friday 18th December. As we are now a cashless school, payment needs to be made online via the School Gateway. We would like to remind parents that we do not allow arrears. **If parents do not pay online we will assume you do not want your child to have daily tuck.** Thank you in advance.



Absence Reporting

In the event that your child will be absent from school please ensure you advise us at the earliest opportunity. **Absences should be reported by:**

- Calling the office on 01928 712100 and leaving a message on the absence line (option 2) **OR**
- Emailing the office at sec.gorsewood@halton.gov.uk

Please ensure you leave full details regarding your child's absence. If you do not inform us why your child is absent we will telephone you to find out why.

Cashless School

A reminder that we are now a cashless school and all payments must be made online via the School Gateway. We are no longer accepting cash or cheque payments. If you need support setting the School Gateway up please see Miss Jackson in the school office.

Emails

All communication is sent home by email. If you are not receiving any information please update the office with your email address. Paper copies are also available from the office.

School Photo Day

Posh Prints will be in school for school photograph day on Thursday 15th October. Full social distancing measures will be in place and further information will be sent by email.

Adrian St Clair Award

Congratulations to the winner of the Adrian St Clair Community Spirit Award 2019/2020: **David Clucas (Y6 Leaver)**

Goodbye

During a virtual leavers assembly we said goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 pupils. We wish them every success at high school.

We also said goodbye to Miss Thompson and we wish her well for the future.

Bicycles & Scooters Left Outside School

Please can we remind you that the area immediately outside the front of school is to be kept clear. All bikes and scooters should be taken to the shared bike shed by St Martins. Thank you for your support.

Drop & Go Area

A reminder that the 'Drop & Go' area should be used for drop off only. Please do not use the area for parking. Please also ensure the disabled space for drop off is also kept clear at all times.

Routine Matters

We encourage parents to adhere to these routine matters for the benefit of the school community:

- Social distancing to be followed at all times
- No dogs in school or within school boundaries
- No smoking in school. The school is a non-smoking establishment. This applies to staff and visitors.
- Parents are requested not to smoke (this includes e-cigarettes and vapour cigarettes) within the school boundaries and immediately outside the school grounds; this includes the front area of school.
- In the interests of safety, we ask children, parents and visitors to refrain from riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, skates and other modes of transport on the school playground and field.
- The car park gates are closed at home time, we would request that parents keep out of this area and wait for pupils in the playground or at the front of school.
- Please park safely and responsibly outside the school. Please leave the school gates clear as well as any marked areas. Local PCSO's do monitor the situation.
- The 'Drop & Go' area should be used for drop off only, please do not use the area for parking. Please also ensure the disabled space for drop off is also kept clear at all times.
- We would like to remind you that verbal or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.

Thank you for your continued support.

Term Dates 2020/2021

AUTUMN 2020	
Opening	Closing
Thurs 3 rd September	Thursday 22 nd October
Monday 2 nd November	Friday 18 th December
SPRING 2021	
Opening	Closing
Monday 4 th January	Friday 12 th February
Monday 22 nd February	Thursday 1 st April
SUMMER 2021	
Opening	Closing
Monday 19 th April	Friday 28 th May
Tuesday 8 th June	Thursday 22 nd July
INSET DAYS x 5	
Wednesday 2 nd September 2021, Friday 23 rd October 2021, Monday 7 th June 2021, Friday 2 nd July 2021, 1 x TBC	
BANK HOLIDAYS	
Monday 3 rd May 2021	

Keep Up To Date

Schoolgateway

