Dolphin School (incorporating Noah's Ark Nursery Schools)

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04 March 2021

Dear Parents,

Our return to school is almost here. Thank you for the great help you have provided to support remote learning. We are thrilled that we will now have the children back in class, in person, with their teachers.

I am so appreciative of the efforts of our teachers who have worked with tremendous dedication, going above and beyond expectations, to prepare and provide engaging lessons for our children.

As you would imagine we have already been considering the best ways in which to support our children and address the impact of lockdown, once we are all back in person. There are ongoing discussions about subjects, focus, progress and most importantly wellbeing.

We know that the greatest 'loss' during lockdown has been on pupils' wellbeing, and this is central to our discussions. Our children will need to adjust to routine, re-establish good sleep patterns, play and socialise with their peers, be active in PE and at break times, enjoy being on the common and in the school garden, and be reminded of hope, gratitude and connectedness as they find joy in being back in school.

Fortunately at Dolphin, our focus on the whole child and relationships means we have a great existing foundation from which to build and support all our pupils.

I believe the approach of our staff, their dedication and the awareness they show of each child's needs is what will be of greatest benefit to our children upon their return.

We will be constantly reviewing what is in our children's best interests and how we can help them to thrive.

Spring Parent-Teacher Interviews

After an unusual term of remote learning, we are keen to provide you with an update on how your child's learning is progressing before the end of this Spring Term. Of course you may have been in regular contact with your child's Class Teacher over the last two months, but we would love to facilitate a formal 'face to face' opportunity to discuss your child's learning journey and next steps.

We will, therefore, be holding our Spring Parent Teacher Interviews on the week beginning 22 March. These will take place on Zoom and will last 15 minutes. Class Teachers will be able to discuss your child's progress in English and Maths as well as your child's wellbeing and attitude to learning. There will also be an opportunity to identify and discuss any gaps in learning that may have become apparent while we have been in lockdown, but importantly the focus will be on identifying how we can address any gaps or concerns, and set new targets for the Summer Term.

More information about booking a time slot to meet with your child's Class Teacher will be shared with you next week.

Chromebook and charger return

We were glad to be able to lend our chromebooks to families who required extra devices for remote learning this term.

Please can chromebooks and accompanying chargers be returned on Monday 8 March, as they will need to be quarantined and available for pupils in school as early as possible next week. Please wipe down the device and charger before returning. It would also be hugely helpful if you could attach a post-it note or similar label with your child(ren)'s name recorded.

Staggered Arrival and Dismissal Times Reminder

Year Group	Arrival Time & Door	Dismissal Time & Door
Reception	08.50 - Northcote Door	15.15 - Northcote Door
Year 1CB	08.50 – Gate	15.20 - Gate
Year 1SS	08.50 - Wakehurst Door	15.20 - Wakehurst Door
Year 2	08.40 - Northcote Door	15.25 - Northcote Door
Year 3	08.40 – Gate	15.30 - Gate
Year 4	08.30 – Gate	15.40 - Gate
Year 5	08.30 - Wakehurst Door	15.45 - Wakehurst Door
Year 6	08.30 - Northcote Door	15.45 - Northcote Door

In the interests of safety, please follow the exact arrival and dismissal times listed. We must work together to keep the transitions smooth and the pavement clear. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Reception Diamonds Superheroes

This week we have been creating Superhero comic strips. We talked about our favourite **superheroes**, what kind of **missions** they would go on and what a **day in the life** of a superhero was like.

We made up our own **super healthy** superheroes, **villains** and **sidekicks** and added **captions**, **speech bubbles** and **sound effects**.

Whenever you are in trouble these superheroes will save the day!



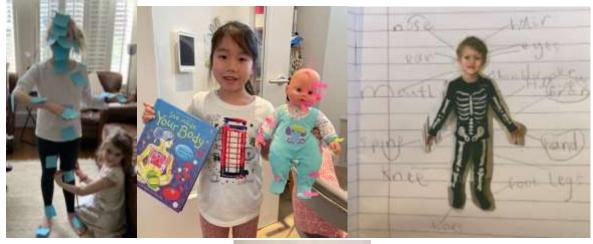


Year 1 Pearls

The Pearls have been really enjoying their new Science Topic - Humans. They began by labelling some of their body parts, resulting in a number of children being completely covered in post-it notes! They carefully considered the role of different body parts and how each body part has a special job to do.

Whilst learning about the five senses, some children bravely agreed to a blindfolded taste test. Taste buds tingled as they sampled a variety of mystery foods! Salty, sweet and sour were some of the adjectives used to describe the different foods. Some children even discovered that they liked new foods that they had never tasted before!

Anatomy experts: Rebekah, Cece, Freddie, Rafe, Theo and Ralph.





Taste testers: Matilda, Josh, Archie, Hugh and Otto



It will be a joy to see all our children on Monday!

Yours sincerely

N. S. Baldwin

Mrs N S Baldwin Principal