

# Ridgeway Newsletter – SEPTEMBER 2020

## Dear Parents and Carers

### What's Covered:

- Dates for 2020 - 2021
- Term Dates 2020 - 2021
- Drop off and Collection Times
- Autumn Term Parents Evening
- COVID Prevention Measures
- Congestion on pavements
- COVID symptoms
- Christmas Events
- School Meals

### Drop Off and Collection Times

Below is a reminder of your classes drop off and collection time. I would like to thank parents for being on time and making these parts of the day run smoothly.

Class Group	Start Time	End Time
Year 1 - Rose	8.30am	3pm
Year 1 - Clover	8.30am	3pm
Year 2 - Daffodil	8.30am	3pm
Year 2 - Thistle	8.30am	3pm
Year 3 - Holly	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 3 - Ivy	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 4 - Hawthorn	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 4 - Laurel	8.40am	3.10pm
Year 5 - Sycamore	8.50am	3.20pm
Year 5 - Birch	8.50am	3.20pm
Year 6 - Oak	9am	3.30pm
Year 6 - Horse Chestnut	9am	3.30pm

### Dates for 2020 - 2021

At this point in the year we usually publish our dates for the coming year. However this year we do not know what we will be able to provide in terms of events and meetings. We will publish some essential dates, but please be aware that these may change as the year progresses and COVID restrictions are lifted or implemented.

### Term Dates

#### Autumn Term 2020:

**Inset Day:** Tuesday 1 September 20

**Term Starts:** Wednesday 2 September 20

**Inset Day:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 20

**Half Term:** Mon 26 October – Fri 30 October 20

**Term Ends:** Friday 18 December 20

**Holiday:** Mon 21 December 20 – Fri 1 January 21

#### Spring Term 2021:

**Term Starts:** Monday 4 January 21

**Half Term:** Mon 15 February – Fri 19 February 21

**Term Ends:** Thursday 2 April 21

**Holiday:** Fri 2 April – Fri 16 April 21

#### Summer Term 2021:

**Term Starts:** Monday 19 April 21

**Inset Day:** Friday 30 April 21

**May Day:** Monday 3 May 21 (*school closed*)

**Half Term:** Mon 31 May – Fri 4 June 21

**Inset Day:** Monday 7 June 21

**Term Ends:** Tuesday 20 July 21

**Inset Day:** Wednesday 21 July 21

### Autumn Term Parents Evening

We are intending to hold our Autumn Term Parent Consultation Meeting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020. We will follow the same format as last year running from 1pm – 7pm. At this stage I cannot confirm whether these will be face to face meetings or by telephone. We will need to leave this decision until closer to the time when we see what social distancing restrictions are in force and what has happened with the R-value. The safety of our school community is of the highest importance and will always take precedence over any decisions we make.

## COVID Prevention Measures

I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents for working with us to ensure that we minimise the spread of infection. Things we have put in place to support this are:

- Staggered start and finish times;
- Several entrance and exit points;
- Only one parent to drop off and collect
- Parents wearing masks while on school premises;
- One way system around school;
- Social distancing by parents on premises;

## Congestion on pavements

It has been brought to our attention that the pavements outside of school are becoming quite congested, as parents are leaving the site using the one way system as other are arriving. It would be really helpful if you could walk in single file on the pavements outside of school which will allow parents walking in opposite directions to pass each other easily.

## Christmas Events

Unfortunately it is unlikely that the school will be able to hold its usual Christmas festivities. However we do still want this to be a time of excitement for the children.

We will still have a Christmas Dinner Day, but unless guidance changes over the coming months, this will be held in our Bubbles on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

We will not be able to invite you to our usual Christmas performances, so instead we intend to have a Virtual Carol Concert. This will take place over Microsoft Teams, where each class will perform a Christmas song or carol and poem. These will be recorded and will be streamed during the week before Christmas.

## COVID Symptoms

A reminder that children should not attend school if they, or anyone in the household, is displaying any ONE of the COVID symptoms:

- A high temperature;
- A NEW continuous cough (coughing continually for an hour or more);
- A loss of sense of smell or taste;

Your child will not be able to return to school until the person displaying the symptoms has received a test. If the test is negative then your child may return to school the following day. If the test is positive then your child will need to remain off school in isolation for 14 days. **Please remember if your family is awaiting a test result, you should be self-isolating and under no circumstances should you enter school premises for any reason.**

## School Meals

From Monday 5 October we will be moving to Parent Mail to order and pay for school meals. This means that when paying for their child's meal, parents will order on line, the option from the menu that they wish their child to have. Children who receive free school meals, including those in Reception, Year 1 & Y2 who receive a FSM under the universal offer for FSM, will also be able to choose and order their meal from home. This will help parents know what their child is eating and will also allow us to ensure there is a sufficient amount of each of the meal options. More information will be received next week. **Please note that when this system is live, if your child does not pre order, they will automatically receive the hot meal of the day.**