07 September 2020

Welcome Back Everyone - September 2020

It was so lovely to see so many happy, smiley faces back after the holidays, we hope you all had a lovely break over the summer.

As well as having a break ourselves we have also been very busy over the summer getting ready for the new school year and are excited by the updates we have been preparing. Thank you to all the staff who have given up their own time and worked so hard in school during the holidays!

We are really pleased to have welcomed all the children back who have settled so well. We are ensuring plenty of handwashing and good hygiene is taking place throughout the day and have made adjustments to rooms so children do not congregate together in small spaces and have access to their own, rather than shared resources.

**New Children** – we are delighted to have 9 new reception children join us – Paige, Wilfred, Florence, Daniel, Minnie, Lars, Jacob, Harrison and Ella join us. We really hope you enjoy your time here at Cheselbourne.

Overleaf is some useful general information and reminders for the start of the school year. Newsletters will come out weekly on a Friday- starting next week. All paper correspondence from school will be sent home via email (where possible). This week, instead of a newsletter, specific information from teachers about each class, along with Topic Webs for this term will be emailed out on Friday.

I look forward to working with all our dedicated staff, hardworking children and their extremely supportive families over the next year and hope we have lots of fun whilst all being inspired to learn and achieve our best!

Please don’t forget that even though the school office has to be closed to parents, if you do need to speak to me please ring or email the school office.

Warm regards,

Mrs Mary See

Headteacher, Cheselbourne Village School

**Cheselbourne Village School**

**Useful Information for Parents Sep 2020**

**School Website**

Our website also has lots of information about school on and this is constantly updated throughout the year so please take a moment to familiarise yourself with it- [www.cheselbourne.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.cheselbourne.dorset.sch.uk). We will also continue to update our [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/cheselbournevillageschool) page with all the exciting things we get up to in school, so keep a look out for that. We also love to hear your comments and feedback on our pages but please remember when doing this, it is a very public domain and all can see what is put on there. If you do have any issues or concerns with the school, then please be sure to speak to Mrs See or a parent governor in the first instance. Thank you very much for your support with this.

**Safeguarding**

Our prime duty is to take care of all the children that attend our school and part of this role is ensuring we safeguard all children from any harm. All staff in school have up to date Safeguard training and our Child Protection Policy outlines all that we do to keep children safe. In school we have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs See) and deputy DSL (Mrs Collett) whose role it is to look into and possibly report any concerns regarding the children onto the relevant safeguarding authorities at Dorset Council. If you ever have any concerns about the welfare of a child then please contact the DSL. The [NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/) is also a brilliant resource for advice on this matter.

**Permissions, Medical Information/Allergies and Emergency Contacts**

Please remember to let us know if there are any changes to your children’s permissions (e.g. photographs online), medical information or allergies and ensure that we have at least two **up-to-date** emergency contact numbers (from different locations e.g. not from the same house) please. All this information is held on your child’s school file. Please speak to Mrs White if any of this needs updating. Thank you.

**Drop off/Pick up**

School **starts** at 8:45am with activities prepared, tailored to each child, to start the day. Therefore, children need to be in school ready to start the day at this time so they don’t miss out on this. If you are running late, please ring the school to let us know and we can look out for you at the gate. School finishes at 3:15pm and children should be collected at the front gate. We won’t let a child go until we can see their grown-up. Thank you for adhering to social distancing outside of the school gates.

**Messages and Communication with teachers**

We normally run an Open Door Policy in regard to speaking with parents and are very keen to work together with you to provide the best education we can for your child, however, given our current COVID-19 restrictions this isn’t as easy. If you need to speak to your child’s teacher please use email to contact them directly. Teachers check their emails daily in the week but if an email is received out of our usual working hours there may be a delay in receiving a response. If you would like to arrange a face to face meeting then please arrange this via email before coming into school. Parent meetings will be offered midway through this term. Date and details TBC.

**Lunches /Snack/ Milk/ Water (Healthy Schools)**

We aim to be a healthy school and provide the children with a good education around food and being healthy, therefore, we encourage you to consider this when packing lunch boxes please. This means that sweets or fizzy drinks are not allowed. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

At the current time we are also unfortunately not able to hand out any birthday treats as we normally would.

Our provider for school meals is [Local Food Links](https://www.localfoodlinks.org.uk/); please order food through them via the link. Please contact them directly if you have any problems ordering online.

Butterfly Class children (Reception to Y2) are entitled to Free School Meals, a fruit/veg snack during the day and milk (free until they are 5). If your child in any class would like milk at school please complete the milk form, available from the office. Kingfisher class can bring in their own fruit/veg snack from home to have during playtime.

Water fountains are **no longer** available on the playground so all children need to bring in their own **named** bottle of **water** that will be kept in the classroom throughout the day. These can be refilled throughout the day if needed.

**Attendance**

We believe that good attendance is critical to your child achieving their very best at school.  Whilst we appreciate that your child will occasionally be unwell and unable to come to school, we expect them to be in full attendance for the rest of the school year. With this in mind we are unable to allow time off school for holidays etc.  Please find our full Attendance Policy on our school website for more details. If your child is unwell, please phone or email Mrs White in the office before 9.30am on the day your child is ill.

Please also follow the guidelines around any suspected Coronavirus symptoms, children displaying these should not come to school and if they come down with them whilst in school we will be contacting parents to come and collect them straight away. Any person displaying coronavirus symptoms should get a test done and await the results before returning to school. We have a strict procedure to follow in the event of a positive case of coronavirus either from someone *in* school or from a close contact at home and we will inform parents of this if it becomes applicable.

**Uniform and Lost Property**

We believe that the children should take pride in their appearance and always come to school looking smartly dressed in the correct uniform.  All of the Cheselbourne uniform is available to buy via the link to uniform on our website. We may also be able to provide help to any families who need financial support buying their child's uniform, if this is the case, please speak to Mrs White.

**PLEASE** make sure that your child’s uniform is **clearly named** and check this regularly as sometimes labels etc. can come out/wash off. Any lost property is kept in the cupboard in the office or box in the cloakroom. Please check this for any missing items in the first instance.

**PE**

We are very fortunate to have both Mr Dailey and Mr Treble delivering all our PE this year. Mr Dailey for Year 1-4 on a Monday (Reception will join this session later in the year) and Mr Treble for all years on a Friday afternoon. **PE Kits** -Please make sure your child has the correct, named PE kit – blue t-shirt, navy blue or black shorts (tracksuit bottoms for when it’s cold in winter) and trainers or plimsolls. Children must not wear jewellery for PE and should take off any earrings or other jewellery beforehand please. On Monday all children should come to school in PE kit please and their kits can then be left ready for their second session on a Friday. Kits will be sent home on Friday afternoon.

**Forest School**

We will be resuming our Outdoor Forest Learning every Thursday morning from this week. For our new Reception families, this is a timetabled lesson which gives children an opportunity to engage in learning outdoors that is linked to learning in the classroom. Every Thursday all children should come to school in clothes suitable for outdoor learning and bring their school uniform to change back into afterwards. Old clothes suitable for getting mucky and suitable for the weather (warm long-sleeved clothing, including warm waterproof coats, hats, scarves and gloves in cooler/wetter months and cooler clothes in the hot weather including summer hats) need to be worn. Wellies should be brought in and put on the rack in the gazebo to change into before the session. We will endeavour to be out in all weathers but will always take into account the specific conditions before each session and have an Indoor Forest Learning session if the weather is too bad to be out in.

We have a new Outdoor Forest Learning leader for this year, Claire Platten.

**Home Learning, Reading, Spellings and Times Tables**

Our aim is to help your child achieve their full potential and be successful in school and we understand that your support at home forms a big part of this. Therefore, we would appreciate your support by reading regularly at home with your child and recording this in Reading Records, helping with Home Learning tasks, spellings and times tables. We will send out more specific information about this in class letters on Friday.

Throughout the year we normally put on Parent Workshops and invite grown-ups into school to see what we do in school and offer ways to help you support your child. However we have put these on hold for the Autumn Term due to our COVID-19 restrictions. We will keep this under review though.



**CSF**

We hope that our very supportive parent association the Cheselbourne School Friends (CSF) will be able to start up again for this year but we currently cannot run this. Again we will keep this under review and let you know as soon as we are able to resume this.

**Pupil Premium**

Pupil Premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. This is based on research showing that children from low-income families can perform less well at school than their peers. The pupil premium is intended to directly benefit the children who are eligible, helping to narrow the gap between them and their classmates. Please speak to the school office if you think you could be eligible for this.