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Dear Parents/Carers,

As always, I hope this letter finds you and your families safe and well. It has been a very challenging time for us all and I hope you will agree that together, we have really provided the best support and provision for our children, so that we could all be safe and continue to learn remotely during the last few weeks, as well as welcoming some children back to school. Thank you from all the staff for your hard work with your children – it has certainly been a great team effort.

I would like to share some details about the arrangements that will be in place from 7th September onwards. I felt the best way of doing this is in bullet points to make it clear how school will be operating, in order to keep your children/families and our staff as safe as possible at all times. Below are the main points with key information highlighted in bold:

- **Term starts on 7th September for Years 1-6.**
- **Year R already have their specific transition plan already from this date – see website for details.**
- **Each class will be a 'bubble' of children.**

In order to cut down on people/gatherings at the school gates, we will continue to stagger the start and end of the day. Please abide by social distancing rules to help keep everyone safe and drop-off/collect your child as follows:

Drop off times:

- Seal class - 8.40 Front door entrance
- Turtle Class - 8.40 Playground gate
- Dolphin class - 8.50 Front door entrance
- Kittiwake class - 8.50 Playground gate (walk around and come in the bootroom door to avoid walking past Dolphins).

Pick up times:

- Seal Class - 3pm Front door entrance
- Turtle Class - 3pm Playground gate
- Dolphins - 3.10pm Front door entrance
- Kittiwakes - 3.10pm Playground gate (again walk out of bootroom door to avoid going past Dolphins)

PLEASE can you make sure you are on time as we need to stick to these times, so that the system works and we can abide by social distancing. We have had to leave 10 minutes between children's groups so that we can get all the children safely through their 'handwashing' routine as they come into school and to keep them apart.

- An adult from your child's group, will be waiting at the gate or front door for you. Please leave your child with them and note that **no parents are allowed onsite**. Please ring us if you need to talk to us, or pass a message to the assigned adult.
- If younger children are upset or reluctant to leave parents at the gate, please can we ask that you give verbal encouragement as the staff will not be able to offer physical comfort or reassurance.
- We need children to safely come into school.

Government guidelines state:

- Only **1 adult (member of your household) can bring your child to school.**
- You should not mix families in cars, but just travel as your household.
- If possible, walk or cycle to school.
- Abide by the social distancing.
- School clothes do not need to be washed every day.
- All contacts details for families, must be up-to-date and kept up-to-date with the school office.
- Face masks used on the bus, must be safely put into a plastic bag when getting off the bus.
- Only come onto school grounds in an emergency and only 1 person in the school office at one time.
- Please do not walk to school together in large groups, mixing families.
- Children are not required to socially distance in their bubbles, but adults will still remain doing so.
- Attendance at school from September will be mandatory for all children of compulsory school age.

Things to bring to school:

- All children are to **wear uniform** please.
- **Bring a snack, packed lunch and the child's water bottle.** We will not be using water fountains.
- **You can bring book bags/bags, reading books but not pencil cases.** Equipment will be provided for your child in school, which is just for their personal use.
- **As the weather is still warmer at the beginning of September, please bring in a sun hat and apply suncream before coming in.**
- On a Wednesday, **ALL children can come to school in PE kit,** so that they do not need to change into PE clothes.
- On Woodland days, **children can come to school in woodland clothes** (Monday = Dolphins, Tuesday = Kittiwakes, Thursday = Turtles, Friday = Seals).
- Please can children in **Dolphins and Kittiwakes bring in an old 'dad's shirt'** or painting apron to use in school.

Please note:

- **ALL children will need a packed lunch** – Free School Meals and the school meals for Years R and 1 & 2, will only be packed lunches for the first couple of weeks as we need to make the hall safe before we can serve hot school dinners. **Packed lunches can be purchased from school.** This is a Trust-wide approach to ensure that we serve hot dinner safely.
- We will be teaching a **'broad and ambitious' curriculum** as stated in the DfE guidance, but we will spend the first half of the Autumn Term, focusing on **more 'nurturing'** activities in the afternoons, in order to settle the children in and to focus on their mental health and well-being. We are very aware at this school, that children will need time and space to talk about their lockdown experiences and so we are going to tailor our curriculum to support them.

For your piece of mind:

- Children will have breaks and lunchtimes in their 'bubble' and not mix bubbles. Our hall is so large we will sit 2 classes safely away from each other. There are zoned areas of the playground for each bubble to play in.
- Cleaners will be cleaning touch points and rooms *throughout* the day, as well as after the children leave.
- There are NO clubs so children don't mix.
- There are NO assemblies in the hall so children don't mix.
- We will NOT be using the tyre park or climbing frame, so children don't mix.
- Children will be reminded to wash hands *throughout* the day, especially when coming into school and before/after eating. Our focus will be on thorough hand washing and the teaching of 'catch it, bin it, kill it'
- Children will eat their packed lunch in their 'bubble' and not mix with other children.
- Classrooms have been rearranged so that in Turtles, Dolphins and Kittiwakes, all the tables are forward facing. In Seal Class, there is less furniture so this is not necessary.
- If your child has an accident/needs first aid – staff will care for your children as normal and will wear PPE equipment as we will need to get closer to children in these circumstances.

If your child is unwell with symptoms:

- We will follow the normal procedures and call you to collect your child.
- Tests can be requested (some kits will be held in school for you to take home) for all people showing symptoms.
- You will need to self-isolate, as will your family, for 14 days – as per the current Government guidelines, until test results come back or if positive.
- If any household member is unwell with symptoms and you are self-isolating, you need to inform us that your child will not be in school.

If your child is unwell anyway, not linked to Covid-19, please follow the normal procedures and inform us before 9.30am on the first day of absence.

I do hope that this letter is comprehensive in detailing all our plans to keep your children safe and that it shows you the high level of thinking and commitment we have put into this. Your children are our priority and we are looking forward to seeing all of them in September. If you have any queries or questions, please e-mail me on head@burnhammarket.norfolk.sch.uk or Class Dojo your teacher directly.

I wish you a very happy, sunny and healthy summer holidays next week, and we look forward to welcoming Years 1-6 back on the 7th September, and gradually welcoming in our new Year R children.

With kind regards and thanks for your continued support of the school,



Mrs Rachel Stroulger
Headteacher