

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope you all had a fantastic summer break, remained healthy and enjoyed quality time with your families. It has been 6 months since we have seen some of you. Where did the time go!

We were all very excited to have the children back. While in school the children remain within a year group bubble. This means that as far as possible they do not mix with children from any other year group and have a regular team of adults who support them in class.

The old playground is no more and is now a construction site for the new school. Due to Covid-19 limitations the building work started later than anticipated, but we were very pleased that the gates were ready on time- just!

The children are allocated to one of 3 new play spaces. When they play they do so within their allocated timeslot and playground. We have organized play equipment that the children are able to use to play. Children eat with their year group in the canteen. So far play times have run smoothly and the children have been excited about their new play spaces.

Thank you for your patience while children, parents and staff settle into new routines. Where possible if parents can wait in the sections marked this will help to ensure a safe and smooth drop off pick up time.

As part of Covid safety guidelines please remember to adhere to social distancing and avoid gathering in groups.

Look out for an email from your class teacher with a Microsoft Teams invitation to a virtual meet the teacher session. This session will provide information about the year group and class routines.

Children must have a water bottle clearly labeled with their name. This is vital as children no longer have access to water fountains.

PE lessons started today. Children are required to bring in a PE kit at school.

The children had their first virtual assembly of the term today. Assemblies will be carried out virtually for the foreseeable future.

**Communication:** We believe communication with parents is important. However, this is going to be different due to Covid-19 restrictions. We are unable to have conversations at gates in the way you have been used to. Please email class teachers or call the school to make an appointment or pass on urgent messages. Please follow the communication procedures emailed to parents.

## Covid Updates

In line with DfE requirements, RPS has completed a risk assessment for the full reopening of the school. The risk assessment is available on our website at: <http://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/RPS-Risk-Assessment-for-September-Opening-Plan-updated-31.08.20.pdf>

If guidance changes, further updates will be posted on our website.

## Reception and Nursery Parents

Reception and nursery children will gradually be introduced to their new setting to ensure a smooth and successful transition. Parents and carers will receive separate correspondence detailing these arrangements and children's start times.

## Medical needs

Please make an appointment with Sharon in the school office if your child requires medicine to be administered. You will require an appointment to sign paperwork to enable us to administer medicine. Please note office reception hours are 9:15-14:50 to accommodate children's arrival and departure times.

Uniforms can be purchased using Parent pay. If you do not have access please call Sharon or email the school office. Uniforms can be collected by appointment on Friday.



## Face Masks

### Children

I am sure that you are all aware of the varied debates that have occurred in the media regarding the use of face masks in schools. Children under the age of 11 are exempt from wearing face masks and we do not expect them to wear them. However, if parents choose to send children into school wearing face masks and they are expected to remove them in school please remind them that they should:

- Avoid touching the mask
- Wash hands
- Remove masks carefully and place in a sealed plastic bag (or dispose in a lidded bin)
- Then place it in their school bags
- Wash their hands again

If children wear a face mask all day then they must be encouraged to avoid touching it.

### Visitor and Parents

The DfE has clearly stated that parents should not be permitted onto the school site unless it is 'essential'. You must make an appointment to be permitted on site.

Parents and visitors attending will be expected to wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Dates for the diary

<b>3.9.20</b>	Years 1-6 return to school
<b>9.9.20</b>	Year 4 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>10.9.20</b>	Year 5 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>11.9.20</b>	Secondary school transition webinar for parents 4:00
<b>14.9.20</b>	Year 1 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>15.9.20</b>	Year 2 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>16.9.20</b>	Year 5 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>16.9.20</b>	National TA Day
<b>17.9.20</b>	Year 3 Virtual Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
<b>5.10.20</b>	Diversity Month begins
<b>5.10.20</b>	Thank a Teacher Day
<b>13 and 14.10.20</b>	School photographer in
<b>19.10.20</b>	Creativity Week begins
<b>23.10.20</b>	Break up for half term
<b>2.11.20</b>	Children return to school

### Tree Tops

Tree Tops have started providing our afterschool club. This is no longer managed through RPS, although Kay and Lucy are now employed by Tree tops to deliver this club. We have been very impressed by the toys and equipment that has arrived in school for the children. My office looked like Christmas had arrived early! The children are really enjoying it so far.

If you would like your child to attend the afterschool club, bookings can be made directly though their website at: <http://www.treetopsclubs.co.uk/listing/rotherhithe-primary-school/>

### Star of the Week!



Star of the Week assemblies will be next week and take place in class on Fridays. Please check the newsletter to see which children were recognised in each class and have received a Star of the Week award.

### Bikes and Scooters

Unfortunately, we are currently unable to store children's bikes or scooters in school. We no longer have enough space.

### New Build Updates

Look out for newsletters from Farrans the company building our new school. These updates will inform you of how the building work is progressing. These will be posted on our website.