



Oakhurst Community First & Nursery
School
*'From Little Acorns Mighty Oaks
Grow'*

Dear Parents and Carers,

15th October 2020

Hot school meals are returning!

We are really pleased to let you know, that after half term we will be introducing hot school meals. We will be continuing to use Chartwells as our meal provider. Any meals that have already been ordered as packed lunches will be automatically converted to the main or vegetarian meal. If you wish to make changes to this or put in an order for the first week back, you will need to do so by Sunday 25th October.

The meal ordering website link is: www.dorsetmealselector and the menu will be sent out along with this letter.



Open event

Normally at this time of year we are inviting prospective parents to come and view our school. Obviously this year, we are not able to offer this. Instead we are busy preparing a virtual tour which will be videoed on Monday 19th October and then published on our school website and possibly other local social media sites. I am aware that Monday is PE day for Years 3 and 4, but please could the children wear a school jumper with their PE kit on Monday ready for our video. Parents have all completed consent forms for photography and we are aware of some children who do not have consent to be used in photos for public display. If you do not want your child to be in the video then please email the school office by 8am on Monday morning.

Parents' consultation

I hope you all found your parent's telephone consultation this week useful and informative. The feedback from all of the teachers has been really positive and I would like to say a huge thank you for working so closely with us and supporting us in providing the best education we can to your children. A positive thing I really felt came out of the national lockdown was how it made our community stronger and closer together. We are really feeling that and hope that you are too. Working collaboratively can only be a positive thing for the children.

Goodbye

We are very sad to inform you that Victoria will be leaving as our Nursery Manager at half term. So many of the children have benefitted for her care and support in their early education and I know she will be greatly missed. We wish her every success and happiness in the future.



Smoking

Once again it is been brought to my attention about a handful of parents smoking directly outside of the school gates at drop off and pick up time. Please can I ask for your consideration of all of our community that this is not used as a smoking area and remind you that nobody should be gathering or having long conversations at the school gates. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation regarding this.

Hand Sanitizer

We have noticed an increasing number of children bringing their own hand sanitizer into school. This has caused some issues as it can become a bit of a distraction. We have plenty of sanitizer in school, so unless there is a specific reason

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as to why your child needs their own and this has been agreed by us, then please can we ask they do not bring them to school. Thank you

Covid-19 and Absences

We have had a couple of queries and confusion about the government guidance regarding self-isolation. The government guidance is that if anybody within a household is displaying any of the symptoms of Covid-19 (continuous cough, high temperature or loss or change in smell or taste) then they are required to be tested and until the results come back their whole household is required to isolate. If the results come back negative then they can carry on as normal, however if it is positive then it is now a legal requirement that the person who tested positive continues to isolate for 10 days and the rest of the household for 14 days. More information can be found via the link below

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

If your child is absent from school for any reason, you must notify the school office by 9am at the latest. We have to know where every child is and the reason why they are not in school. With the current situation it is essential that we know the reason for any absence so that procedures can be followed promptly if required.

Remote learning

From 22nd October if a child, group of children or whole class have to be off school due to Coronavirus we have to provide remote learning. We are currently exploring the most effective method to do this, but in the first instance this will most likely be via email from the class teacher. We will keep you updated if this changes.



Fundraising

Obviously our PTFA are not able to run many of our normal fundraising events, and are having to think slightly differently as to how we can raise money. We are still hoping to raise enough to continue to develop our IT equipment for the children. We have been mulling different ideas over, and would really appreciate it if anybody has any suggestions that they would be happy to share. We have set

up a GoFundMe page <https://gofundme.com/f/the-power-of-our-community-ipads-for-oakhurst> to be able to collect donations for events moving forward without the need for you to bring money into school.

To get the ball rolling we are going to have a dress up day next Friday (23rd October). This could be Halloween related, but does not have to be, but we do request that children do not wear masks. We are asking for a £1 donation for this. We are also holding a pumpkin competition over half term. If your child would like to enter, please help them to design or carve a pumpkin at home and email a photo to their class teacher by Monday 2nd November and make a £1 donation via the GoFundMe page. The most original from each class will get awarded 5 Dojo points.



Have a good weekend.

Ann

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