

Dear Parent/Carers

Staff across the school have been busy not only working with the children in school and setting home-learning but getting all areas ready for when we welcome everyone back at the start of the Autumn term.

And we most definitely are looking forward to having everyone back again.

In order for us to operate within the current guidelines setting out protocols and expectations there will need to be some adjustments to the way Birklands 'normally' operates. Once all of these details are finalized I will inform you so that you have plenty of time to adjust. There are some changes I would like to share with you now so that you can make plans are:

- **Breakfast Club and Wrap Around Care**

These will **NOT** be running week commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> September. They will commence week beginning Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. However, there will be limited places, so booking in advance will be needed. More information will be included in next week's newsletter.

- **School Meals**

Our school catering team will only be offering one hot meal option each day. Weekly menus will be sent out and you will be expected to inform us in advance whether your child is having a school lunch or bringing in a packed lunch from home.

- **Cashless**

To minimize the touching of different surfaces Birklands will be operating a cashless system. This means school meals, uniform, trips will need to be paid via your child's SQUID account or a bank transfer. Please speak to the school office for further information and if you need to set up.

- **Snack-time**

Our catering team will continue to offer a healthy snack at break-times. Again to minimize contact we are asking that these are paid for in advance each week on a Monday. Your child will need to either pay £1.50 if they are having one item per day or £3 if they are wanting two items per day. This should be brought to school in an envelope.

- **Water-bottles**

All of our children will need to bring their own water-bottles. School will not be providing these. Children will be expected to take these home daily so they can be cleaned.

- **Stationery**

Birklands will be providing all of our children with their own set of stationery, including pencil, ruler, coloured crayons, etc. Children are **NOT** bring their own. These will not be permitted in the classrooms.

- **Uniform**

The wearing of uniform will be a requirement when we open fully in September. Please do not buy your child black trainers or fabric shoes for school. Our policy is black leather/leather effect shoes.

Please check the school website for the price list. Uniform can then be ordered using the contact form on the school website or by ringing the school office. You can either pay

through your child's SQUID account or by contacting the school office to pay by bank transfer.

### **Transition**

Hopefully, you have had the opportunity to explore the transition information provided by all of our teachers, via our website.

If not, then please do. You can find the links in the information section when you click headlines.

Your child should also have received their getting to know me pack from their new teacher. If they have not yet received this please contact school so I can chase this up.

And don't forget to return the booklet to school by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Mrs Cogan**

Many of you have noticed that Mrs Cogan is not on any of the transition information. This is because Mrs Cogan is taking a year's leave of absence for personal reasons next year. We will miss her greatly within our team and will look forward to her return in September 2021.

### **Free school meal vouchers over the summer break**

For those families entitled to benefit free school meal vouchers please ensure you have contacted school to give us your email address. This is required so that you can order the food vouchers you will need to support your family over the summer break.

**Failure to provide this information will result in you not receiving the vouchers you are entitled to.**

### **Reading Books and 100 books to read by the end of year ...**

Thank you to those that have returned our reading books already.

If you have not done this yet please check for a school reading book and one of our 100 books to read by the end of year ...

We would like these books returned to us by the end of term. If you are able to drop these off at school in a carrier bag, we would really appreciate that.

### **Home Learning**

All teaching staff continue to support our children, who are learning from home. This continues to be via our website and paper-based packs, if you requested one.

Every teacher updates their class web-pages daily with learning activities.

The paper-based packs continue the same work and should be accessed each day for the rest of this term.

The next set of paper based learning will be delivered week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> July. Please ensure you have notified school, if you require one of these.



### Summer Closure

A little reminder that Birklands will close to all children at the end of the school day on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Stay safe and positive.

Mrs Smith (Head of School)