



Monday 24 August 2020

Dear parent/ carers

RE: September 2020

I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer so far and have enjoyed the sunshine. With two weeks of the holiday left, I am writing to you to share the plans for the 7 September 2020 so when school returns you have as much information as possible. As we know, circumstances change quickly and with little warning, but we hope this will not be the case and the start of term is as smooth as when we returned in June.

Firstly, as a parent of school aged children myself, I appreciate everyone's concerns around safety. The research seems to show that children are at extremely low risk of becoming ill from the virus and about half as likely as adults of passing on the virus. With this in mind, the Government are very clear in their expectation that all children will return to school. One thing we can all agree on is that children missing education is certainly very damaging to them in the long term and so to get our children learning again is in their best interest.

We were incredibly pleased with our return back in June for children in Years N, R, 1 and 6. This was extremely successful and an enjoyable experience for everyone who returned. This has given us confidence that we can make September just as successful. Our wonderful cleaners have been working hard over the summer completing a deep clean and the staff, as well as the children who already returned, are familiar with the routines and procedures we all follow to keep everyone safe.

Attached to this letter are several documents. The first is a booklet with information about September with questions and answers which you may be wondering. As well as this, there is a booklet for your child, a booklet with practical things to talk to them about returning and two fliers- one about what your child needs to bring to school and the second on the school times. To keep everyone as safe as possible, start and finish times will be staggered to limit the number of people of site. All this information is within the booklets.

Once again, we all acknowledge the worries we all have about the safety of our children. If you have a specific question or concern, please email us on worrybox@oaklands.medway.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible to hopefully settle your worries.

Main points in this letter

- **School opens for all pupils on 7 September 2020**
 - **Information about how the new term are attached to this letter**
 - **Start and finish times will be staggered so check the times carefully**
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I hope that you enjoy the last two weeks of the holiday and we all look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 7 September.

Barry Symons
Headteacher