

18.2.2022

Dear Parents/carers,

It is almost two years now since we were plunged into the first national COVID lockdown. I am incredibly grateful for your support and understanding as we have moved from one opening plan to another, trying to stay one step ahead of ever-changing rules and guidance. I am also very aware that many of you will have never been inside our brilliant school or seen your children's work first-hand. From next-half term, I am delighted to announce that we will be beginning to reopen New Park to parents and the community, starting with our open lessons and school tours.



Open lessons, school tours and parents' evening

You are invited to join a lesson in your child's class and to spend time with your child, looking and discussing their schoolwork. We will also offer a tour of the school for those who have not visited before. I am sure these days are going to be very popular so please confirm your attendance via your ParentPay account.

Please note there is a limit of two adults per child.

- Monday 7th March - EYFS open morning (9-10:30am) and afternoon (2-3:15pm)
- Tuesday 8th March - Y3/4 open morning (9-10:30am)
- Thursday 10th March - Y5/6 open morning (9-10:30am)
- Monday 14th March - KS1 open morning (9-10:30am) and afternoon (2-3:15pm)

These open lessons will be followed on 22nd March with our Spring parents' evening. This will be remote again to avoid a large crowd in the school hall. Invitations for appointments will go live on ParentMail at 6pm on 8th March.

One-way system

From next half-term we are scrapping the one-way system on the playground. Please use the blue double-gates to enter and exit the site from now on. The school day begins at 8:45 and the gates are closed at 8:50.



Coffee Mornings and SEN drop-ins

Our coffee mornings with Mrs Lee and SEN drop-ins with Mrs Umpleby will start again next half-term. The first coffee morning will be on Tuesday 1st March at 9am in the community hub.

New staff and parent governor at New Park

We have welcomed Miss Norton and Miss Stringer to the team this term. Miss Norton has joined our Senior Leadership Team whilst Mrs Adamson is on Maternity Leave and Miss Stringer is our new midday supervisor, helping the children in the dining hall each day.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new parent governor, Sarah Cooper, who has a child in Reception. Our school governors play an important role in holding the school to account and overseeing all aspects of school life.

Platinum Jubilee closure

The Government have announced an additional bank holiday on 3rd June 2022 to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee. As this is during half-term schools have been asked to close for an additional day. New Park will therefore be closed to children and staff on Monday 20th June.

Term dates for 2022-2023

These have now been published on the website.

Aspens

Our new caterers have made a flying start to New Park. The new menu and online ordering system means every child gets the food they have ordered and we reduce waste too. This term we have purchased a new self-serve salad bar and drinks station to promote the children's independence at meal times. We will be running a tasting session for parents next half-term so keep your eyes peeled!



Curriculum overviews

Please find attached your child's curriculum overview for this term, showing what they are learning in school.

World book day

It's World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. This year we will be opening our brand-new Bedtime Story Library and are asking all children to come to school in their cosiest, comfiest pyjamas for the day as we celebrate bedtime stories across the school.

Dates for your diary

- Thursday 3rd March – World Book Day
- Monday 7th March - EYFS open morning and afternoon
- Tuesday 8th March - Y3/4 open morning
- Thursday 10th March - Y5/6 open morning
- Monday 14th March - KS1 open morning and afternoon
- Tuesday 22nd March – Parents' Evening

Have a fantastic half-term,

Mr Mold

