

07/09/2020

Welcome back



I have, over the past few days, really enjoyed the sounds of a busy school. For some pupils the routines and classroom layout will have been familiar to them; yet for others, this will have been the first time they will have set foot in the classroom since March! I am sure they had many questions prior to returning and that many parents did as well.

I hope that what you have seen over the past few days will have gone a long

way to allay any nagging doubts over whether children returning to school was the right thing to do.

Ryefield plays an important part in laying the foundation for your child's future success at secondary school and beyond and this process has been severely interrupted by the pandemic. We are committed to narrowing any gaps and accelerating your child's progress; for this to be achieved means that **home and school will have to work together to achieve the best outcomes for your child**. An example of just how committed our team is can be seen above. Mr Murray (Y6) was required to quarantine due to holidaying in Holland, this meant that he would not be in class for the first two days of term. However that wasn't going to stop him! Through the use of Google Classroom and a visualiser (a device normally used for scanning books) Mr Murray was able to teach remotely and interact with his class, he was ably supported by both Mrs Hayward and Mrs Ryan.

Friday presented an unexpected event, which left Mr Murray logging in and seeing an empty classroom. At 08:20 the fire alarm sounded due to a faulty access point. I would like to thank parents, pupils and staff for assembling on the playground and outside the school gates. Fortunately there was no immediate danger, however the fire brigade could not locate the broken terminal. This meant that they would not allow anyone back into the school, so we had to close the school.

Fortunately the faulty unit has been fixed and we were able to reopen on Monday.

Reopening plans

I do hope that parents have taken the time to read the reopening plans and specific arrangements that were put in place to enable the school to reopen. This list will continue to change and evolve, often in response to government or Public Health England advice.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

To avoid congestion and overcrowding on the school site, please avoid arriving too early.

Days for PE:

- **Monday - Year 2**
- **Tuesday - Year 1**
- **Wednesday - Year 3 and Year 4**
- **Thursday - Year 6**
- **Friday - Year 5**

In line with our infection control policy, pupils will not be changing prior to the lesson. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing clothes that are suitable for PE, where possible we intend to have our lessons outside, so a hoodie/sweatshirt, joggers and trainers would be ideal.

Swimming - Year 4 would normally be beginning their swimming lessons, however we have yet to hear from either the coach company or Uxbridge pool. As soon as we have more information I will provide parents and pupils with an update.

Autumn / Winter is here...

If your child has asthma and uses a preventative inhaler (Beige/ Brown/ Orange/ Red/ Purple/Pink) please make sure it is being taken regularly **EVERY DAY** as we are heading towards the most challenging season for asthmatics.

The Hillingdon Champions of Asthma Team.

LUNCHES:

The school kitchen is providing packed lunches for all pupils who are eligible for free school meals, this includes children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. They **must** be ordered in advance and via Parent Pay. We have had a number of children expecting lunch but their parents have not ordered a sandwich pack.

Please ensure that you have ordered your child's lunch in advance and informed them of your menu choice.

A free lunch will only be provided to those who are eligible for one, if you are not eligible then you will be charged.

You can check to see if you are eligible here:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims>

Autumn Term Dates

Thursday 3rd September – School opens for children

Friday 23rd October – School breaks up for half term

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half Term

Monday 2nd November – School Opens

Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November INSET: Staff only

Friday 18th December – Term Ends (KS1 finish at 1.30/KS2 finish at 1.35pm)