

LARKSWOOD NEWS

Message from the Head

4 September 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome back to the new school year for 2020-2021. It has been wonderful to open the gates to you all after such an extended period of time. Yet again, I am absolutely amazed at the resilience of the children at Larkswood, eagerly waiting at the gates in anticipation, greeting friends and teachers with their big smiles, walking into their classrooms with confidence, and instantly focused on learning – we have all had a fantastic week.

The School Day

I must thank you all for your continued support and patience as we managed our reopening plans and made any adjustments each day to ensure the health and safety of our entire school community. The school has been overwhelmed with your messages of thanks and praise, and your feedback. Having evaluated and reassessed the entrance and exit to school, and listened to your suggestions, we have made some adjustments to the start and finish times of the school day, which begin from Monday.

	Mornings		Afternoons	
	Gate Opens	Gate Closes	Gate Opens	Gate Closes
Nursery & Rec	8.30am	8.50am	3.15pm	3.30pm
Key Stages 1 & 2	8.30am	8.50am	3.15pm	3.30pm

In order for the above timings to be executed successfully, we kindly ask for your support to assist with Health and Safety and so that teaching & learning for your children can start on time:

- Please can only 1 adult enter the school grounds for the drop off and collection of children
- We encourage the children in Year 5 and Year 6 to be dropped off at the school gate, however parents will still need to collect from the playground (unless your child has permission to walk home alone, Year 6 only)
- Please avoid bringing scooters and bikes on to the playground
- Unfortunately, we are unable to supervise or monitor social distancing outside of the school grounds – so please do not crowd the pavement and move away from the school when exiting the school.
- Where there are peak periods of parents and carers into the playground, you may be asked to briefly queue to avoid congestion – so please be mindful and respectful of social distancing towards each other.

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Our Curriculum

As all children will be returning to school from next week, we felt it was important for you to be aware of the approach that we are taking in terms of the curriculum.

For the first two weeks we will be focussing on a Recovery Curriculum. This will include, learning of new procedures and routines, friendship/collaborative games, basic skills, speaking and listening exercises and mindfulness. This list is not exhaustive and I am sure your children will really enjoy telling you all about their learning and their days upon their successful return.

Our teachers have put our pupils' well-being at the centre of our thinking. We acknowledge that the children will have had different experiences during this time. However, the common thread running through all is the loss of routine, structure, friendship, opportunity and freedom.

We hope that you feel this approach will support your child's well-being as they begin their re-engagement with learning at school. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or would like more information.

New Starters

Next week will see our new Nursery and Reception cohorts starting school. This is always such a huge milestone for children and their families, and we welcome them into our school community as they begin their Larkswood journey.

Please find attached some further information in our newsletter, including PE days and our school uniform. Many thanks for your continued support, and I look forward to the year ahead.

Kind regards

Brendan Plunkett

Headteacher

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SAVE THE DATE



Individual & Siblings Photos

Monday 19th October

Nasal Flu Spray

Monday 7th December