



# SPRING VALE PRIMARY



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVING MORE

## RETURN TO SCHOOL

As a school community, we should feel very proud of the way children returned to school. Yesterday was my favourite day in 23 years of teaching. Seeing the children skip into school, settle quickly, play with their friends and interact with the staff was a joy. I cannot thank you as parents enough for your hard work during lockdown and your patience while the school was establishing our new systems. Please continue to social distance around our school site and beyond the school gate. We do have a number of small learning points and subtle changes we have made today and will need to in the coming weeks.

## TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Please, please help us to stay safe by arriving on time when dropping off and collecting children. Please refer to the start and end of the day for your children that has been sent out in letters and text messages a number of times. Once again, where children have a brother or sister in a different year group with a different start and end time, please speak to a member of staff where we will, of course, help you with this issue. It is vital that parents drop their children off and then leave the school site immediately. Myself and Miss Manning have been extremely pleased with how parents have supported us with this initially but we must continue with this until the guidance changes.

## SPORTS KITS – YEARS 1 - 6

In previous correspondence we have spoken to you about children coming to school in sportswear on PE days. I can only apologise if this has caused angst or confusion. Our intention was to simplify the changing process for PE lessons. For this half term, children can come to school in sports kit on their PE days. You will receive a text and there are notes in windows about the days your child will have sports lessons. Sportswear does not have to be in school colours. It could be their PE kit with tracksuit bottoms, leggings or other flexible clothing.

## ITEMS CHILDREN CAN BRING IN TO SCHOOL

Due to Covid-19, we are asking that only coats, lunch boxes and water bottles are brought in to school at the moment. This will slightly change over time and depending on year groups. Children will need a water bottle that they can bring and take home every day (except for Reception). Currently, they do not need pencil cases as any equipment needed for learning, school will provide these.

## TEXT MESSAGING

Currently, text messaging is the best way for us to communicate with parents and we often send links to documents and letters that are on our website. At the end of text messages it says "Get our App: edsp.co/app". You **do not** need to download this app to be able to receive text messages from school

and we have found that parents who have downloaded the app then have difficulty trying to open any links to correspondence that we have sent. If you have downloaded this app then please delete it.

## LUNCH MENU

The lunchtime menu is no longer set over a 3 week period. Like most restaurants, school is running a limited menu. This means there is less choice for children and often menus are decided on a weekly basis and are always subject to change. We realise for some children and parents this is very difficult. There is always a vegetarian option and we will continue to cater for all dietary requirements. All children have the option to bring a packed lunch from home. We do hope, in the coming weeks, that we can return to the cycle of the three week menu when we will be able to send this home to you and publish it on our website.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Great news! Breakfast club staff have worked extremely hard in order to reopen breakfast club for years 1 to 6 from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Breakfast club will open for Reception children from 14<sup>th</sup> September once some children have started full time school. The session will remain 7.45 am to 8.30 am and will be charged at £2.00 per child, per session. Children can be dropped off any time between 7.45 and 8.15 am. Children will be provided with a snack, drink and structured supervision. They will sit at year group tables in order that they remain in their bubbles. Please ensure payment is in an envelope, there will be a tub for you to put the payment in. Currently, we will be unable to give immediate change due to the current issues of exchanging money. **Finally, as you queue for breakfast club, children and adults must social distance as this is one of the few times in school where children from bubbles will be anywhere near each other. As parents it is your responsibility to ensure this happens before the staff open the doors.**

## COMMUNICATION WITH THE OFFICE

The office is now open but the preferred method of communication is still by phone or email. If you do need to speak to us in person, you may need to wait outside as space is very limited in the reception area.

**FINALLY** . . . all children look so smart and proud to be back wearing the Spring Vale badge. Our recent outstanding achievements will continue. It is my privilege to be the Headteacher of this wonderful school. Enjoy your weekend.  
Mr Blunt and the staff of Spring Vale.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr Blunt".