



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope that you have had a restful and happy summer break. We are looking forward to seeing our whole school community back together at the start of this Autumn Term.

All children in Years One and Two will return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children to 'Stay and Plays' next week where they will be able to collect their new book-bags and ties!

This year, we are welcoming some new staff to our team. Mrs Stephanie Croucher is working in the office as our Assistant Business Manager, supporting Mrs Per. Miss Nicole Nicolaou and Miss Hashvinie Robert Gnanasekarem are joining our support team in Reception, and Mr Lee Brooks is working with Ms M in Year Two.

### **COVID-19**

We are following the latest statutory Government guidelines relating to on-going COVID safe measures in schools. Children will no longer be assigned bubbles and we will begin to welcome parents back into school.

In addition, we will retain the following safety precautions:

- Extra hygiene measures – washing / sanitising hands regularly
- Well ventilated classrooms and communal areas
- Outside learning where possible
- Enhanced cleaning regime - toilets, high touch points etc
- Voluntary testing for all staff twice weekly
- Maintain staggered start time 9.00am -9.10am to avoid a bottle neck at the gates
- Visitor disclaimer forms to minimise risk of infection
- PPE available to staff – particularly for close contact care

### **If your child tests positive for COVID-19:**

- If your child tests positive using an LFD test, they should isolate immediately. A confirmatory PCR test should then be taken as soon as possible. If the PCR test comes back negative it overrides the LFD result and self-isolation can end immediately. If the PCR comes back positive, your child must self-isolate for ten full days after the first day of symptoms, or if there were no symptoms, ten full days after the day of the initial test.

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- Close contacts of the child, (e.g. classmates), do not need to self-isolate provided they are under 18 years 6 months or fully-vaccinated. It is strongly recommended that close contacts should take a PCR test whether they have symptoms or not. They do not need to self-isolate while waiting for the result, however, if their PCR test comes back positive self-isolation rules will apply immediately.

**If your child displays symptoms of COVID-19, (new continuous cough, high temperature or change / loss of taste or smell):**

- Your child must self-isolate
- A PCR test should be taken as soon as possible. If your child tests positive your child must self-isolate for ten full days after the first day of symptoms
- If the PCR is negative, they may return to school if they feel well

If there is a positive case within a class, we will inform you via email, recommending that your child takes a PCR test. Your child will not need to self-isolate and must continue to attend school as usual, unless their PCR test result is positive.

### **Start of Day**

We will continue to operate a 'staggered start' in the mornings. Gates will be open between 9.00am and 9.10am and you can walk your child into school and drop them at the classroom door. Please do not enter the classroom and instead promptly say good-bye to your child at the door. Please vacate the premises as soon as possible to minimise the number of people on site. Staff will not be available to answer queries at this time in the morning as this is a busy time for all and the focus will be settling the children into learning.

You will be given many opportunities to meet the class teacher and teaching assistant and spend time in the classroom environment during the term. (See details below).

Gates will be closed at 9.10am so please ensure your child has entered their classroom by this time.

### **End of Day**

The school day will end for all children at 3.30pm, (gates will open at 3.20pm). You should enter the site through your allotted gate and wait outside your child's classroom for them to be dismissed. Please try and maintain social distancing as much as possible. Once you have collected your child, please vacate the school site promptly as the gates will be closed at 3.40pm.

### **GATES**

We ask that Reception and Year Two children use the main office gate to enter the school premises. Year One should use the gate at the top of the playground to access the school site.

### **Uniform / What to bring to school**

All children should return to school in full school uniform. Please ensure that all items are named clearly.

Children should bring a PE kit to school, including tracksuit bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers. PE bags can remain on your child's peg for the half term. PE lessons will take place outside wherever possible. PE will not take place in the first two

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weeks in order for you to ensure that your child is able to dress / undress independently for PE. We need to minimise direct contact between staff and children where possible.

Your child does NOT need water bottle as water coolers and disposable drinking cones are available in every classroom.

Children should bring their book bag to school every day.

### **Welcoming parents into school**

We will be resuming our Terrific Tuesdays (Reception), Wonderful Wednesdays (Year One) and Thrilling Thursdays (Year Two), where parents are invited into the classroom each week to work alongside their child from 9.15-9.45. This is an informal arrangement, you do not need to inform us if you are coming. If you are not able to attend you can send another family member in your place, but please ensure only one family member per child. If working commitments do not allow you to attend, please don't worry, a member of school staff will work with your child.

Please see dates below for the initial session for each year group. (Reception sessions will begin after the half term break, to allow children time to settle).

We will be resuming our half-termly special Headteacher Award Assemblies for children in Years One and Two. If your child is to receive an award, you will receive a written invitation to the assembly. Every child will receive an award before they leave at the end of Year Two. These awards specifically celebrate children demonstrating our school values, (honesty, respect, kindness, courage, positivity), and our ten superskills for learning, (creativity, confidence, collaboration, making connections, risk taking, being resourceful, curiosity, perseverance, good communication, being reflective).

You will be invited to a 'Welcome Workshop' for your child's year group near the beginning of term. (Dates below). These will give you information regarding the teaching and learning in your child's year group and how you can support them at home.

### **Communication**

As some of you know, during the lockdown periods, year group emails were in operation. These are no longer operational. Therefore, all communication to teachers should go via the normal office email, [enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk) This communication will then be forwarded to the relevant member of staff.

However, if you wish to communicate confidentially with a member of the Headship Team, please email them directly on [headshipteam@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:headshipteam@parkhill-inf.croydon.sch.uk)

### **Key dates for the Autumn Term (subject to change)**

- 6/9 All Year One and Two children to return to school
- 7/9 Class 1 Stay and Play 10.30-12
- 8/9 Class 2 Stay and Play 10.30-12
- 9/9 Class 3 Stay and Play 10.30-12

Reception children have been emailed their own staggered starting dates following the Stay and Play sessions.

17/9 Welcome to Year One meeting in the hall:

9.15-9.45 Class 4

10.00-10.30 Class 5

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10.45-11.15 Class 6

Welcome to Year Two meeting in the hall:

1.30-2.00 Class 7

2.15-2.45 Class 8

3.00-3.30 Class 9

- 23/9 Year Two – Space drama workshop and Space Theme dress up day
- 24/9 Year One Superhero Day and dress up
- 29/9 Initial Wonderful Wednesday for Year One – will continue weekly unless notified
- 30/9 Initial Thrilling Thursday for Year Two – will continue weekly unless notified
- 1/10 Welcome to Reception meeting in the hall:
- 9.15-10.15 Class 1
- 10.30-11.30 Class 2
- 2.30-3.30 Class 3
- 8/10 Hello Yellow Day – dress up for Young Minds
- 18/10 Harvest donations welcomed following work in classes.
- 21/10 Headteacher Award Assembly – by invitation only
- 22/10 Last day of the half term

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November- All children to return to school.

We look forward to seeing Years One and Two on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, and Reception at the Stay and Play sessions. Enjoy the last few days of your holiday!

Very best wishes

*The Headship Team*

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