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Tuesday, 21 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of another school year and it has been a time like no other. It has challenged us in so many different ways and yet throughout this the strength, the unity and the 'can do' attitude of our whole community shone through.

For those of you who have been managing home schooling since March along with your own work commitments and care for your families, it has not been easy, and we are full of admiration for what you have managed to achieve. It is clear from our telephone calls with children and the work we have seen that you have done your utmost to make sure that the children have a balance of 'formal' learning as well as trying new activities and developing skills.

Some children have been at school throughout lockdown and despite the differences in ages, they have developed strong friendships and have had a wonderful time together.

More recently having Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 back in school has made our school feel and sound a little more normal. It is a very different experience from the Deptford Park they left in March with small hubs, different staff and new routines yet they are testament to the fact that children are adaptable and resilient. We have loved having them back.

I am so proud of the Deptford Park staff team. They are a hardworking, committed group of professionals at the best of times but when faced with a challenge, will move mountains to make sure that the children's needs are put first. They have worked tirelessly and have certainly earned their summer break.

We say goodbye to 3 teachers **Beccy Hughes**, **Maria Pavlou** and **Olivia Boyle** who leave us to take up new challenges. They have all worked hard for our children and given much to the school in the time they have been with us, we will miss them.

I am pleased to inform you that in September joining our teaching staff is **Natalie Ramsey** having successfully completed her Initial Teacher Training here at Deptford Park.

We have put together a plan for opening the school to children from Monday 7th September. We are excited that all children will be returning and have thought carefully about what this will look like.

*Continued...*

Head Teacher: Ken Johnson  
Deputy Head: Leona Baffour



Recent government guidance has given schools new freedoms to operate larger bubbles and has outlined advice that encourages schools to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum. We have decided as a school that Deptford Park will consist of 3 large bubbles of children who can more successfully physically distance (Y4, Y5 & Y6). Inside each bubble will be 3 class pods. All other Year groups will have class pods that will be separate bubbles. This will allow us to deliver a high quality curriculum while observing the guidance.

The following table highlights school starting and finishing times, as well as locations for picking up and dropping off. Each bubble is staggered:

	<b>Start time</b>	<b>Break time</b>	<b>Lunch time</b>	<b>End time</b>
<b>EYFS</b>	Nursery: 8.55 Gold: 8:55am Copper: 9:05am Enter via the Nursery/Reception Gate	N/A	11:45am – 12:30pm 11:45am eat lunch (Dance Studio) Play on the Back Field	Nursery: 12pm Gold: 3:20pm/ Copper: 3:30pm Exit via the Nursery/Reception Gate
<b>Year 2</b>	Yellow: 8:30am Purple: 8:40am Enter via the Main Gate	10:15am-10:30am KS1 Playground (B)	12pm-12:45pm 12pm eat lunch (Infant Hall) Play in Infant Playground	Yellow: 2:50pm Purple: 3pm Exit via the Main Gate
<b>Year 6</b>	8:30am Enter via the Football Cage Gate	10:00am-10:20am Football Cage	12pm-12:45pm 12pm eat lunch (Junior Hall) Play in KS2 Playground (B)	2:50pm Exit via the Football Cage Gate
<b>Year 1</b>	Rose: 8:50am Green: 9:00am Enter via the Main Gate	10:15am-10:30am KS1 Playground (A)	12:30pm-1:15pm 12:30pm eat lunch (Infant Hall) Play in Infant Playground	Rose 3:10pm Green: 3:20pm Exit via the Main Gate
<b>Year 5</b>	8:50am Enter via the Football Cage Gate	10:20am-10:40am KS2 Playground (A)	12pm-12:45pm 12:15pm eat lunch (Junior Hall) Play in KS2 Playground (A)	3:10pm Exit via the Football Cage Gate
<b>Year 3</b>	Ruby 9:10am Diamond: 9:20am Enter via the Football Cage Gate	10:40am-11am KS2 Playground (B)	12:45pm-1:30pm 1pm eat lunch (Junior Hall) Play in KS2 Playground (B)	Ruby: 3:30pm Diamond: 3:40pm Exit via the Football Cage Gate
<b>Year 4</b>	9:10am Enter via the Main Gate	10:45am-11:05am KS2 Playground (A)	12:45pm-1:30pm 1pm eat lunch (Junior Hall) Play in KS2 Playground (A)	3:30pm Exit via the Main Gate

We ask parents to collect and drop off swiftly to avoid congestion. Late or very early parent arrivals will have a negative knock on effect.

The following outlines the information you need to know about the start of the new academic year:

## **School Return Chronology:**

### **Monday 7th September**

Current Nursery children, Reception, Y1, Y3 and Y6 taught from this day onward by their new teacher.

### **Wednesday 9th September**

Y2, Y4, Y5 and new Nursery children taught from this day onward by their new teacher.

### **Lunch and Play Times**

All breaks will be staggered and children will be allocated areas of the playground to play. Hot lunches will be available and children in KS1 and Reception can have a free hot meal as previously.

### **Uniform**

All children are to wear full school uniform every day, as well as wearing PE kit during physical education lessons. The new guidance states that this is now possible.

### **Communicating with the class teacher**

Parents will not be able to speak to the class teacher after school or in the morning. Instead parents are able to email the class teacher using the [info@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:info@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk) email address. Teachers will respond within 48 hours. More urgent requests should go to the office via an email or phone call.

### **Children carrying items into school**

We do not want children bringing items into school and then allowing other children to touch those items.

Coats and PE kits are to be hung on pegs outside the classroom.

Pencil cases are not allowed in school - children will be allocated stationery.

Children will receive a reading log which will be kept in a plastic wallet.

Homework will be delivered via Google classroom - minimising items going back and forth from home.

### **Breakfast and after school clubs**

Further details will follow.

## Clubs

There will be no after school clubs for the first half of the Autumn Term. This will be reviewed in October 2020.

## Attendance

From September all children are obliged to regularly attend school. Absenteeism will be monitored and parents will be asked to explain every absence period.

## Symptomatic children

If any child or staff member displays symptoms and is tested positive, the child/staff member will need to self isolate for 7 days following national guidance and local guidance. All children and staff belonging to the bubble will also need to self isolate for 14 days.

## Teaching & Learning

We will continue to teach the national curriculum, however the focus will be on wellbeing and transition. Teachers will be delivering lessons where the immediate focus will be discussing experiences during the school closures; encouraging a settling in period. We know that children will express anxiety in lots of different and unexpected ways. Teachers will assess the need of each child's learning as well as support each child's transition back to school.

I will publish our draft risk assessment based on the guidelines issued on 2 July on our website. There will be more guidance in August so the plan is dynamic and I will share it with you as it evolves. The key principle is that all children will return to school in September with systems in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Once you have read the risk assessment, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. If you are going abroad in August, please check quarantine arrangements because if you need to self-isolate for two weeks on your return, you will need to make sure that children will be ready for school on 7 September.

It will be a relief for many of you to have a break from home schooling in the coming weeks. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a well deserved rest. The Deptford Park community has demonstrated resilience throughout this period, each child has reflected this. All that is left to do now is to relax, recharge and look forward to the new academic year ahead of us!

We wish all our year 6 children every success in the next step of life's journey. Have a wonderful holiday and, for those families returning, we will see you in September.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable summer break. Keep safe and stay well!

Sincerely,



Ken Johnson

headteacher@deptfordpark.lewisham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Ken Johnson  
Deputy Head: Leona Baffour

