

As we complete our third week back at school, the summer break seems like a distant memory. Class teachers have spent these first few weeks of term 'baselining' the knowledge embedded in children, so that potential gaps can be identified and addressed before new skills and concepts are introduced. Key Stage 1 have completed a phonics screening test and maths diagnostics, while Upper Primary have undertaken Spelling, Science and Maths tests. We are all incredibly proud of the commitment and resilience the children have shown at being back at school and it is a pure joy to see them working and playing with their friends again!

Children and staff are fully immersed in our new practises and protocols and everyone is working to keep our environment COVID-secure. With all the seasonal colds passing around, it's more important than ever that children understand the importance of 'hands, face, space'.



Another way we prevent transmitting



viruses is by ensuring that every teaching and used space is fully ventilated. You may have noticed that all of our doors and windows are open before the children enter the building in the mornings. This has been lovely so far as the days have been warm and beautiful, but as we head into winter this will not remain the case for long. Infact we have already felt the temperature drop this week. Please ensure your child comes to school suitably dressed with plenty of layers to add, as government guidance currently remains unchanged through cold spells. In these circumstances, non-uniform items will be acceptable until further notice. Keeping children warm is clearly important to us, and please do whatever you feel you need to, to reassure yourself your child will be comfortable and well at school.

We are currently in the process of purchasing additional heaters (chosen to adhere to educational health and safety requirements) and we hope to have this in place very soon. If you have

any concerns, please speak to a member of staff.

It is also necessary for children to keep a spare pair of shoes at school again, as the back field is already very wet! Please ensure children have wellies or suitable footwear for outside use in inclement weather. Trainers do not always suffice on our soggy backfield, so walking boots or wellies remain preferable.



Staff will remain vigilant in their supervision of the cubby room, which we have avoided using until now, and Upper Primary children will continue to keep their boots on the rack outside their classroom where they can keep their distance and change on the step. It is also important for children to have a change of clothes on their peg, so please arrange this if you have not done so already.

### Secondary School Evening

We will be confirming the date of our secondary school evening for Years 3-5 in the parent comms next week.

This is likely to be held via Zoom, but we are confident that we can still cover the

essential details and leave time for Q and A!

If you are interested in visiting Leighton Park, they are offering COVID-friendly private tours this term, and are planning to hold taster days in the spring. Please

book your place at [www.leightonpark.com/visitus](http://www.leightonpark.com/visitus)  
Alternatively you can call them on 01189879608, or email [admissions@leightonpark.com](mailto:admissions@leightonpark.com)

### Crumbs Hot Lunch

Please note that hot lunch next week is week 1 of the new 4-week schedule.

Thank you.

### Year 1&2 Reading

Now that Viv and I have completed our initial assessment and gap analysis of children in Year 1&2, we are ready to re-start our 1-2-1 reading programme. Most children have their reading folder at school already but please can you provide them with one for Monday if they do not. Viv will be reading on Tuesday and Fridays and will write in the reading record as usual. Please remember to date, initial and add comments in their record each time you read with them, so we can keep a fully-

rounded picture of their progress and effort. Please be assured that we will continue to apply robust COVID-secure protocols by quarantining ALL books for a one week period before they are put back into the system.

### Library



Our library is now open for children to use, although we must still adhere to the strictest distancing measures. Children will be given time to visit the library once a week and choose a book (or two) with the agreement of their class teacher. These books may go home, but must stay at home until they are finished and then be returned to our quarantine box. A second book can be chosen to be kept at school for children who want it.



In order to protect your child in the digital world as thoroughly as possible, we ensure we keep up with the latest online safety measures and advice. Social media sites and websites that potentially cause harm to children or put them at risk of harm are constantly

shared with school safeguarding staff, so we can share the necessary elements with you.

A social media site called 'Onlyfans' has recently been added to this list. While it claims to be for over 18s, people only have to tick a box to say they are 18 to sign up. The site works by paying hosts directly to upload videos.....the more 'exciting' the video, the more people will pay. Money can be transferred straight into any UK bank account, even if it is registered to a child. The potential for child exploitation is unlimited, as is exposure to inappropriate content. Adults, therefore, need to be aware of the dangers.

While it is unlikely primary-aged children will know about or use this site, children with older siblings may indeed be exposed. If you are worried about your child in this context, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

[serenagunn@meadowbrook.uk](mailto:serenagunn@meadowbrook.uk)  
[headteacher@meadowbrook.uk](mailto:headteacher@meadowbrook.uk)  
[admin@meadowbrook.uk](mailto:admin@meadowbrook.uk)

Enjoy your week ahead!  
*Sarah*