



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year!



It has been wonderful to welcome the children back this week and they have settled in well and are particularly enjoying being able to mix with children from other areas of the school now at break and lunchtimes. It is also lovely having parents and carers back into the playground at the end of the day. We have really missed this contact with you, and it feels like we are slowly getting our school back!

A special hello to all our new families who are joining us for the first time either as their child enters nursery or reception or is maybe new to the school in other year groups. We know it can be a little daunting starting a new school but please remember we are here to help, so if you have any questions just ask!

Covid guidance changes

As you may know from the media, the current school's guidance means that many of our school routines are returning to pre-covid measures at the moment but please be assured we continue to be vigilant and still have several measures in place. Further details about this can be found later in this newsletter. These changes also means that there is quite a lot of general information this week so please take time to look through the whole newsletter.

Wishing you all a wonderful year as we continue to move forward together to provide the very best for all our children.

Take care and stay safe.

Sue Ferguson

General Information

Updated Information

Later this week we will be asking you to update the contact information we hold for your child. This is an annual safeguarding requirement. It is important that this is completed by every parent even if your child has just joined the school so we can make sure the information we have is accurate.

On this form we will also ask you a few other things



Access to devices - we use this information to know who we may need to loan laptops to in the case of isolating or another lockdown.

Key workers - again we ask for this information so we know how many children we may need to host on site in the case of a lockdown.

Registered with ParentMail - this is the system we use to email and text parents. It also allows you to pay for trips and clubs

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Upcoming Diary Dates



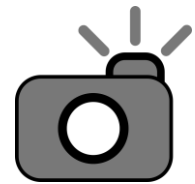
Please find attached to this newsletter the key term and event dates for this academic year. We try to keep to these as much as possible, but they are subject to change, and many are also dependent on any Covid guidance for schools at the time. We will try to give you as much notice as possible of any additions or changes.

Details of class assemblies will be issued next week, and we are hoping we will start to invite parents back into the building to watch these in person.

Please note that there is still the additional bank holiday day for the Queen's Jubilee to be added to our dates. As the national day happens during the June half term, schools are free to place the additional day elsewhere. Governors will be discussing this at their next meeting and so we should be able to confirm the added holiday date with you by the end of this month.

Advance Notice - School Photos

Children's individual photos are taking place on **Wednesday 15th September**. They need to be in school uniform (not PE kit) for this day. If your child is due to have PE on this day please send their kit in a carrier bag and they will change just for this day. Thank you.



We will also be doing group photos of siblings within the school. Details on how you can purchase these will be sent to you next week.

Uniform & PE Days

We have changed our uniform policy so that children come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. The days your child has PE are below, please note that children do get two sessions but some of them happen on the same day.

- ★ Reception – Wednesday
- ★ Year 1 – Thursday
- ★ Year 2 – Tuesday and Friday
- ★ Year 3 – Friday
- ★ Year 5 Tuesday and Thursday
- ★ Year 6 – Monday



Year 4 classes have swimming for 6 months and walk to and from the swimming baths. Therefore, for the 6 months they are doing this they do not have additional PE times.



- ★ Year 4 Octopus - Swimming until February half term and so do not need to come in their PE kits for this period.
- ★ Year 4 Seahorse - PE Days Wednesday & Friday until February half term

Book Bags

Book bags are now allowed back in school. If you need to buy a new one they are £6.50, and you can order and pay for these through ParentMail. A new one will then be sent home with your child.



Packed Lunches



We realise that many school procedures have had to be amended during the pandemic so please find below expectations in relation to packed lunches if you choose to supply your child with these.

1. Please make sure you supply your child with a healthy packed lunch.
2. No crisps or chocolate please.
3. No food that includes nuts as we have children with allergies in school (this includes Nutella in sandwiches)
4. Cold items only.
5. Please don't send in cutlery, this is available in the lunch hall.
6. We would recommend you continue to use paper bags for your child's lunch as these can be disposed of immediately. If you do choose to use a lunchbox please note this at your own risk.

We are committed to continually developing a healthy school approach, so we will be reviewing our food policy this term. As part of this we will be speaking to children, parents and staff about packed lunches, school dinners and a range of other elements to decide on a way forward together.

Breakfast & After School Clubs



Details of the after-school clubs available will be sent out next week.

Breakfast club is available every school morning for years 1 to 6. Reception children can join from January. Children enter through Mitchell Walk gate between 7.30 and 7.45 am. To apply for a place please use the link below.

<https://forms.gle/BFozFfeyYMJsYLR9>

Learning Tips



Reading

Encourage reading choice

Read different things - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more.

Well-being

Use activities that you do together to have conversations about how they are doing. Talking whilst doing something together, side-by-side, such as cooking, can help them share their feelings more easily than a face-to-face conversation.



<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/make-it-count-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

Writing

Have your child start an exciting vocabulary notebook, where they collect all the words they find interesting. Challenge them to use selected words during the day, either through speaking or writing.



PE



Try some of these exercises at home.

Maths

Get children to tell you the time rather than you tell them! Try and make telling the time part of the things you do every day.



Early Years



Beckton & Royal Docks Children's Centre

Activity Timetable September 2021

FREE events and opportunities for you and your child!

Monday

- Sing-along & Stories, under 5 years 9.30am-10.00am **(Zoom) Contact the centre for the zoom details)**
- Music & Movement at Royal Wharf Community Dock Square, 2-5 years 10am-11am
- Messy Mondays, under 5's 11am-12pm
- Baby Sing-along & Stories, 0-12 months 1.30pm-2.30pm

Tuesday

- Stay & Play Babies, 0-12 months 10am-11am
- Childminders Support 10am-11.30am
- Stay & Play, under 5 years 1.30pm-2.30pm

Wednesday

- SEND Stay & Play, under 5 years 10.30am-11.30am **(For children with additional needs, communication/speech delay)**
- Stay & Play Babies, 0-12 months 1.30pm-2.30pm
- Sing-along at North Woolwich Library 1.30pm-2.30pm **(starts 22nd September)**

Thursday

- Little Talkers, 4 week course for children over 2 years with speech/communication delay waiting to be seen by speech & language team 10am-11am **(starts 30th September)**

Friday

- Stay & Play AM, under 5's 10am-11am
- Stay & Play PM, under 5 years 1.30pm-2.30pm
- Baby Massage 11am-12pm **(starts 17th September)**
- Learning through Play, 4 week course under 5 years 1.30pm-2.30pm **(TBC)**

Booking essential for all sessions

Call the Children's Centre on **Fridays from 9.30am to book** or for more information about the sessions:

0207 474 0654

Beckton & Royal Docks Children's Centre, Dove Approach E6 5TJ (Access is via the house gate on Dove Approach.)



Follow us on social media

Email: info@becktonandroyaldockschilddrenscetre.org.uk

Website: www.bardcc.co.uk

Wellbeing and Support

COVID Questions of the week-

What if my child or someone in the family has Covid symptoms?

If your child has Covid symptoms please do not send them to school!



Step 1: Arrange a PCR test. If it comes back negative they can come back in, if it is positive they will need to isolate for the 10 days.

Step 2: Please contact us as soon as you are arranging the test and then again with the result as it may impact our contingency framework.

If someone in your household has symptoms

They will need to self isolate and test and It is recommended that all the other occupants also have PCR tests too. Children under the age of 18 and adults who are double vaccinated do not need to isolate whilst awaiting results although as a preventive measure we may discuss this option with you

Q: What happens if someone in the class tests positive? Will the class need to isolate?

The guidance for September currently says that if your child is displaying symptoms they should book a test and if they are positive they will need to self isolate for 10 days. The rest of the class however will no longer be required to isolate unless they display symptoms too.

Q: Are there still Covid requirements for schools?

Yes. The latest guidance says that current hygiene and ventilation measures need to continue. So please make sure your children are wearing layers as we have to keep some of our windows and doors open. Regular hand sanitising will also continue.

Schools are still required to have a regularly reviewed risk assessment and a contingency plan for any increase in cases.

Further information can be found by clicking the links below.

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/backtoschool>

Information for parents about school return

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Self isolation guidance

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>