



Friday 27th August 2021

Welcome to the Autumn Term 2021!

Dear Parents,

I hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer and are ready to start the new academic year. The Hartwell Team and I are prepared and excited to welcome our families to the new academic year. With this in mind, I wanted to let share with you relevant information for settling back into school life.

Drop-off and Collection

Our school day is from 8:55am-3:20pm. We operate an open classroom door policy from 8:45am; it is at this time the school gates will be opened. We are no longer under the previous COVID-19 restrictions regarding social distancing, however I strongly encourage parents and family members to maintain the one-way system of entering our site via School Lane and exiting on Hillside.

The playground gates will be locked at 3:30pm each day – should you be running a few minutes late and arrive after this time, please collect your child/ren from the school office.

Parent Welcome Drop-In Session

Your child's teacher will be sending you a video at the start of term to welcome you to your child's new class and provide year group specific information. Following on from this, parents are then invited to drop into class between 3:30pm-4pm on Tuesday 7th September should you have any questions you would like to chat to your child's teacher about. You don't need to make an appointment, just drop-in. School age children should be sent to the hall where I will supervise them during this time.

On collecting your child/ren from the hall you will also be able to sample menu items from our school kitchen, provided by ABM Catering.

School Meals

The school meals menu for the new term is live now to order your child's meals. On Monday 13th September, there is a special themed menu day, which is Roald Dahl themed!

Volunteering at our School

I am always so grateful of how supportive our families are of our school, it really does mean a great deal. It has certainly kept us going through the past academic year.

Should you be interested and have a few hours to spare there are a few ways you can become more involved in supporting our children: we are looking for parent/grandparent volunteers. Volunteers can offer support to our school in a range of ways:

- Hearing children read: you will be paired with a class. We look for a weekly commitment to listen to readers and this could be for half an hour or up to a whole afternoon.
- Run an extra-curricular club: if you have a passion or particular skill that you could lead a small group of children in each week after school for 30mins/an hour, we'd love to know about it.
- Join Friends of Hartwell Primary School, FOHPS: this could be as either a helper or a committee member. The AGM is on Tuesday 28th September at 6:30pm in the school hall, so please do come along if you feel you may be interested in getting involved – you'll be warmly welcomed.
- Join our Ethos Team. This team works to support children with their spiritual development and whilst Christian in character, is supportive of all faiths and beliefs, whether that be of a religious character or not.

If you are interested in finding out more about any of these opportunities, please do get in touch with me – I look forward to hearing from you.

COVID-19 Control Measures

Schools are no longer under the same restrictions that we were in the Summer Term and in essence, we can go back to 'normal'. Children and staff will no longer be in bubbles and can mix freely. This is great news as we can reintroduce events, pupil leadership opportunities and have assemblies all together. I very much looking forward to having parents join their children for Star of the Week Celebration Assemblies.

Whilst we are no longer under social distancing restrictions, there are still control measures in place. Along with this letter, I have provided you with an overview of the most recent DfE Schools Operational Guidance. It is still a legal requirement of schools to have a COVID-19 Risk Assessment in place; I will provide you with the updated version in due course.

Thursday 2nd September

School reopens to children on Thursday 2nd September and I look to seeing everyone when I'm on the School Lane gate that morning welcoming everyone to school.

Best wishes,



Jamie Pardon

Headteacher