

## Milborne Message 25.09.2020

### Message from Sharon Hunt!

Dear Parents,

Although cases of COVID-19 remain relatively low in Dorset ( between 9 and 15 September, there were 17 confirmed positive cases in the Dorset Council area) the picture is changing.

**It's more important than ever to keep washing our hands, wear a face covering in enclosed spaces and to keep 2 metres away from other people. Please continue to respect this as you wait outside the school and move on quickly afterwards once you have dropped off or collected your child.**

I have had several reports of groups of people together both from other parents and from residents locally.

There is a letter for parents from PHE about Covid 19 attached to this newsletter and is available on the website under the Covid-19 tab.

There is also some information attached with details of support available during this difficult time.



Thank you for all those making an effort to walk to school and to park away from the school site. There is extra car parking space available at the pub. They have kindly agreed to allow us to use the car park at drop up and pick up times so this should help to ease congestion. **Please can you make sure that any other adults picking up or dropping off your child are aware that the school car park is out of use currently unless you have a disability badge.** Please park considerately, keeping off the pavements and keep road access wide enough for any emergency vehicles to pass and not block any driveway access for local residents.

## A reminder of times

### Drop off

Year 3/4	8.45 am lining up in the same way
Year 1/2	8.45 am lining up in the same way
Year R	8.55 am lining up in the same way

### Pick up (as above in reverse)

Year 3/4	2.50 pm
Year 1/2	2.50 pm
Year R	3.00 pm

**Settling in** We all knew it was going to be difficult for all of us coming back to school this September after a period of such uncertainty. We put plans in place to make the school Covid safe, and to support the children through a nurture based curriculum. I'm pleased to say that after a very tough start, the children seem to be settling in well to school routines and are getting back into their learning modes. We have noticed that they are finding it particularly difficult to concentrate for periods of time and have built in activity breaks which are helping.

There are a few patterns emerging where there are gaps especially around applying phonic knowledge and writing extended pieces of work. Spelling is better, so thank you for your help with that.

I cannot emphasise enough how important reading to and listening to your child is and should be done daily, whatever their level.

We are currently putting the final touches to the school development plan for this year, which will then be shared with you, but reading is a key area we wish to focus on. I will send out more information soon. In the meantime, I urge you to make this part of your daily routine and enjoy the pleasure of sharing books together. I promise that both you and your child will be forever grateful and appreciative. The more you read, the more places you go - together.



**Playground shenanigans:** I have been watching with interest a new game in the playground over the last few days which has been evolving and developing over that time especially in KS2. It's the KFC drive through! It comes complete with a full menu (including wine), telephone assistance, queuing system, deliveroo options, and a long queue patiently waiting for their order. Some in the queue were asking for the Wifi password. A sign of the times I guess!

**Safeguarding** As we approach our annual safeguarding training, I have been thinking a lot about it. There have been many concerns about the amount of time, over lockdown especially, that children have been using games and social media apps, even though many are under age for such activities. Once something is seen or heard it is very difficult to reverse and the damage is done. I'm sure you have all checked devices etc and know what your children are doing and for how long, but if you haven't I urge you to review IT use.

On a slightly different note, I watched a programme on Netflix recently called '**Social Dilemma**' which I thought some of you might be interested in if you haven't already seen it. My daughter has taken herself off several social media sites as a result of watching it. (something I failed to convince her to do)

**Starlight English books:-** if you still have your child's copy, from lockdown, could you please return it by the end of next week by placing it in the box outside Mrs Hosford's window in the main entrance.

**Doodle:-** During lockdown and the summer holidays there were a great number of children who were regularly in the green zone (10mins 4X week) on Doodle. We know that many of the children completed the summer challenge they set, thank you. We do not yet have a list from Doodle but when we do we shall reward those children in school.

Please can you encourage your child to continue to keep in the green zone now we are back at school. Unfortunately we are no longer able to print off individual login slips, please can you write your child's username and password in their diary so they can use Doodle at school as well.

**Rockstars:-** We are in the process of sending out reminder login details for rockstars which helps children learn their tables. Year 1's are included but will need to use it with an adult giving many answers as it is quite challenging. All children will be assessed nationally in year 4 on all multiplication tables to 12.

**PE Kits** The new PE/OE Fit Friday winter uniform is now available to view in the main reception area. I know many of you have already been in to have a look. If you already have navy bottoms and tops then that is absolutely fine with a white PE T- shirt. There is no need to sew on logos. It would be good when replacing these to look again at the school sample.

The first delivery has been received and will be sent home with the children on Monday.

**Parent Consultations:-** As things stand we are working on keeping to the same dates in the school calendar. The meetings will take place virtually, further information will be sent about booking appointments.

The exception to this will be reception class, where covid compliant meetings will take place as some of you will not have seen the classroom space your child is in.

**Knowledge Organisers:-** have replaced the curriculum newsletters and are now available to view on the website on your child's page. Year R will be live after the parent workshop ( 21st September)  
We have been working hard on these and hope you find them easy to follow and informative. These should be used to help you to support your child's learning at home. I would welcome any feedback on these.

**Harvest:-** Harvest will be celebrated differently this year, and not at the church. We will make a decision how that might look nearer the time as it may be weather dependent and will try to record key bits to share with you.

**A reminder of PE days when children come to school in their PE uniform:-**

YR	Wednesday and Friday
Y1/2	Wednesday and Friday
Y3/4	Monday and Wednesday ( <b>Not Friday</b> )

**Message from Miss Townsend (Student Teacher):-**

Dear Raccoons Parents,

My name is Sophie Townsend and I am a trainee teacher who is joining the Raccoons class on Tuesdays; Wednesdays and Thursdays for this term. I am really looking forward to working with all of the lovely children in Raccoons class, as well as with Mrs Pratt and Mrs Cheeseman.

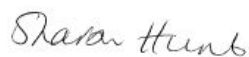
I just wanted to briefly introduce myself as I am sure I will be meeting you all soon, if I haven't already.  
Sophie

Finally - Dorset Council and Dorset Citizens Advice have launched a new campaign called 'Reaching Out' which is trying to encourage residents financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to seek support before things become more difficult. Please follow this link to watch the short youtube clip and see the attached file for more information. This information is also available on our website.

[Reaching Out](#)

Hope you all enjoy your weekend whatever your plans are and get a rest.

Yours sincerely,



Sharon Hunt

**External information:-**

Dorset Family Information service newsletter link:-

<https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/september-newsletter?e=5ad5011868>

Dorset SEND newsletter link:- <https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/send-newsletter-3121142?e=5ad5011868>

October Sports Camp held by Steve Treble - please see the attached poster for more information