



Northbourne News

11th September 2020

I hope you have all had a good week and have adjusted to new routines and timings after such a long time away from school. Staff and I have all loved welcoming all of our children back to school; we have all been thrilled to see they are positive, enthusiastic, settled and eager to learn, and have adapted so quickly to the new systems that we have had to put in place – not least coming into their classrooms independently in the morning. We hope they have told you about their learning as they have come home each day; you will shortly be sent this term's class newsletter giving you more information about the curriculum planned between now and half term so please look out for this.

Covid Safety

Many thanks for your ongoing help and understanding in adjusting to our new routines. These are inevitably becoming smoother each day, thanks to your help – I appreciate it is hard to time your arrival at school as exactly as our reopening plan requires, but I am grateful to you for doing this.

A couple of points which have arisen this week:

- Please do observe **social distancing** expectations when waiting to come into school and at all times when on the school site. The importance of not being in close contact with others continues to be stressed by the government and is one of the key ways to prevent the ongoing spread of the virus.
- Please do not wait on site at any point. If you have dropped off a child in an earlier slot, I am afraid you need to leave the site and return at the start of your next drop-off time.
- However, if you are dropping off children in two consecutive drop off times (so, a Y2 child between 8:45 and 8:55am and a Reception child between 8:55 and 9:05am), please feel free to arrive at the end of the earlier slot / start of the second time so you can drop both off during the same circuit around school...**this is allowed!**
- Year 3 and 4 children can come onto site at the start of the day and leave at the end of the day on their own, if you prefer to meet them outside of school. To help us manage this safely, please email your child's teacher (lowerkeystagetwo@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk) and make sure your child knows where you will meet them; your child's teacher will then send them off site on their own at 3pm. Please emphasise to your child that, should there be any problem with their planned arrangements, they should then come back into school so a member of staff can help.
- At the moment, we are asking that children do not bring in sweets or other items to give out in their class when it is their birthday. This is to help limit the number of items being brought into and sent out of school. Apologies for any disappointment this may cause, but I hope you understand the intention behind this.

Arrival times

Key Stage Two (Owls, Falcons, Hawks, Kites, Eagles, Kestrels): 8:40 – 8:45am

Y2 (Robins and Nightingales) and Penguins: 8:45 – 8:55am

Puffins, Swans and Nightingales: 8:55 – 9:05am

Home-School Link Worker

In collaboration with the other schools in Didcot, we employ a Home-School Link Worker whose role is focused on providing support to families on a range of issues – including (but not limited to) bedtime routines, anxiety, rewards and sanctions, and managing any difficulties. Andrea Gray will continue to be in school alternate Tuesdays this year, starting 22nd September. Andrea will be available at drop-off on 22nd; if you would like an informal chat about any issues you might be having at home, please pop over to her and have a chat, or email your child's class teacher who will be happy to put you in touch with her. Andrea will be really pleased to meet you and is always happy to try to help with any difficulties.

PE Days

As mentioned last week, we are asking that children arrive at school in their PE kits ready for their lesson on the days that this is taught. These days are:

Class	Days	Class	Days	Class	Days	Class	Days
Puffins	Thursday	Robins	Wednesday and Friday	Owls	Tuesday and Friday	Kites	Tuesday and Friday
Swans	Thursday	Wrens	Wednesday and Friday	Falcons	Monday and Wednesday	Eagles	Monday and Thursday
Nightingales	Monday			Hawks	Tuesday and Thursday	Kestrels	Monday and Wednesday

A reminder that PE kits consist of:

- Green Northbourne PE T-shirts, available to buy through ParentMail (Payments/Shop) priced £5 or £5.50 depending on size;
- Black or dark shorts (during warmer weather) or dark jogging bottoms (when outside during the winter);
- Hoodie, tracksuit top or other warm jumpers (as pupils will not be getting changed for PE, a school jumper is fine with this) for pupils during PE as the weather starts to turn colder.

Reminders

- Many thanks for the school books which have been dropped back off to us during the week. If you have any more lurking in bedrooms, please do send them in to us so we can re-stock class libraries.
- If your child has moved into Y3 you now have to pay for school meals. Meals cost £2.20 and should be paid in advance in ParentMail by going to *Accounts* and then *Dinners*. However, you may be entitled to Free School Meals. We can run a quick and easy check, using some of your basic information, to determine whether this is the case; please call Mrs. Gennery in the office if you would like more details.

Data Protection Policy

Our Privacy Notice to parents has changed slightly to include reference to Track and Trace. Updated copies of our Parent and Pupil notices are available at this link: <https://northbourne.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Data-Protection-Policy.pdf>

Safeguarding at Northbourne

Northbourne is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We undertake rigorous checks on all staff and volunteers who work in our school and maintain a central record documenting these. Staff involved in recruitment and selection of employees are trained in safer recruitment and all of our staff and volunteers undertake Child Protection training.

If you have concerns about the safety of a child, please speak to Mr. Shaughnessy, who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the school. In my absence, please speak to a trained Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Johnston, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Alleway, Mr. Woods, or Miss Hill. Kate Woods is our named governor with responsibility for Child Protection.

Any concerns about the conduct of a member of staff in relation to safeguarding and child protection should be raised in the same way.

All school policies relating to the safeguarding of pupils are available for further reference on the school website, with paper copies available from the school office on request.

You can also contact the Oxfordshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to report any concerns about children on 0333 0143325.

Lost Property

Please can you make sure all items of clothes are clearly named so that lost property can be returned to the correct child. If you notice that your child has brought home an item that is not theirs, please can it be returned to the school office.