Thursday 11th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The first week back after lockdown has been a big success. We are delighted to have all the children back in school. It is amazing how the routines, the lessons and the learning behaviours have all been re-established in such a short time. The remote learning has really helped staff pick up where they left off and it has allowed us to build on prior teaching so that we can facilitate children’s learning.

**Communication**

Please keep us up to date with your contact details. We have had a difficulty contacting some parents as phone numbers and email addresses on our records are incorrect. You can update us at any time by emailing gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk

**Uniform**

Although we have recently allowed children to wear PE kit for school during team building week we would like to kindly remind children that school uniform should be worn throughout the week. This is: grey trousers or skirt; light blue, polo shirt; navy blue, Gawthorpe Community Academy jumper; black school shoes or plain black trainers. PE kit should only be worn on PE days. Children should come to school in their PE kit on those days

**PE Days**

Reception Thursdays

Year 1 Monday

Year 2 Thursday

Year 3 Wednesday

Year 4 Monday and Thursday

Year 5 Tuesday

Year 6 Friday

**School Times**

Thank you for your support in dropping off and picking up at the staggered times. We have only had a small number of children arriving early. We would ask that children are dropped off **no earlier** than the times below (unless they are in intervention groups before school). This allows the children to wash hands in cloakrooms which would otherwise be overcrowded.

Nursery normal hours

Reception 8.50am 3.00pm (Reduced lunchtime)

Year 1 8.40am 3.10pm

Year 2 8.45am 3.15pm

Year 3 8.35am 3.05pm

Year 4 8.35am 3.05pm

Year 5 8.45am 3.15pm

Year 6 8.35am 3.05pm

**Parents Evening**

Dates for parents’ evenings: Monday 22nd March, Tuesday 23rd March or Wednesday 24th March. Emails will be sent out tomorrow inviting parents to a consultation with class teachers and support staff. There will be the option to have a phone conversation or a teams call (using the children’s email addresses). Please send back your preferences for times and the type of call you would like as soon as possible.

**Nursery**

We would like to thank Miss Rush, the nursery teacher, for covering during Mrs Beaumont’s absence since June of last year. She will be leaving us on Tuesday 16th March. We wish her well for the future. Mrs Beaumont will be back in the nursery from Monday 15th March.

**Y5 Bikebility**

Information will be sent out to year 5 children inviting them to take part in the bikeability training after Easter. This course teaches children how to ride their bikes safely on the road. Forms will need to be completed and returned to school. All details about bikes and other equipment are in the pack.

**Comic Relief Day**

Friday 19th March is Comic Relief Day. We will be collecting donations to the charity and the children can wear their own clothes following the theme “Wear what makes you feel good”. There will be some activities taking place in each class.

**School Meals**

From the **8th March**, we ask all parents to continue to order their child’s meals online. Any problems with resetting parent’s passwords, please contact the school office.

Children in Reception and Year 1 who bring a packed lunch to school could we ask that you write your child’s name on the bag.

We have a number of children in school who are allergic to peanuts. For this reason we ask that you **do not include peanut butter sandwiches in packed lunches**. Some children are so sensitive to airborne particles from peanuts that this can cause anaphylactic shock.

Please let us know if your child has any allergies so that we can update our medical records.

**National Sleep Awareness Week 14th to 19th March** Amazing Breakthrough ………..Scientists have discovered a revolutionary new treatment that makes you live longer. It enhances your memory and makes you more creative. It makes you more attractive. It keeps your weight managed and lowers food cravings. It protects you from dementia. It wards off colds and the flu. It lowers your risk of heart attacks and stroke, not to mention diabetes. You’ll even feel happier, less depressed and less anxious. Are you interested?

Please see the leaflet below about the importance of sleep

**Reporting Covid Cases**

Please make sure you let us know immediately if your child has tested positive as we need to act quickly to inform Public Health England as well as inform parents and staff of any necessary closures and isolation requirements.  Please email [gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk).

**Positive Covid Tests and Self Isolation**

The government recommend that the NHS COVID 19 App is downloaded.  If you test positive or are identified as a contact of someone who has recently tested positive for COVID-19, you will receive an email/text alert from the NHS Test and Trace Service advising that you must now self-isolate as soon as possible and stay at home.  The message will advise the date of the isolation period and it is a legal duty to comply with this.

Schools will be asking staff and parents to provide evidence of the need to self-isolate so that an accurate record can be kept in school.

If you have any issues providing this information, please email [gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk](mailto:gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk)

**Picture News**

Please find attached this week’s Picture News poster.  Picture News is a resource used in school to promote discussion around current issues.  Each week there is a homework activity with an image and a question.  We would encourage you to talk about this at home with the children.  There are no right or wrong answers, it is a forum for discussion.

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Mrs C Harris      Mrs P Gill

Head of School      Deputy Head of School

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| Upcoming Diary Dates | | |
| **Dates** | **Event** | **Who is it for?** |
| Friday 19 March | Comic Relief Day | Whole School |
| w/c 21st March | Celebrating World Poetry | Whole School |
| w/c 21st March | Parents’ Consultations | Whole School |
| Friday 26th March | Break up for Easter |  |
| Monday 12th April | Return to school |  |
| w/c 19th – 23rd April | Bikeability | Year 5 |







at Home