

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the new 'normal' year. We have been very pleased with how well the children have adapted and settled during this week. A particular well done to our youngest children who have had to adapt to coming into school on their own.

We are pleased to welcome those of you who are new to our community and hope that despite the current situation, you feel welcome and sufficiently informed of all our procedures. If anything is unclear please do not hesitate to contact the school office (office@mulbartonprimary.norfolk.sch.uk) with your queries. We would much rather you contact us directly than worry about it at home.

As many of you will be aware, Miss Wright is currently recovering from an operation and so we have welcomed Miss Hannah Kingston as a new member of staff to be the teacher of Kestrels (year 3). Miss Wright will be relocating to Scotland over half term but we hope to see her before she leaves to say our goodbyes. In addition, we have appointed 2 new teaching assistants, Amy White in year 3 and Elana van Veen in year 5 and also a new member of the office team, Holly Dean. We hope they will soon feel settled and part of our lovely team.

During the week, a number of issues and questions have arisen which I will answer below:

Birthdays - please do not send in cakes or sweets with your child due to Covid restrictions.

Forest School/PE - when your child has PE, they have been asked to come into school in their kit. On the days when they have forest school, they need to bring items of clothing to put over the top of their PE kit. The clothing should ideally be a waterproof jacket and trousers, however if your child prefers to

wear jogging bottoms this is acceptable. The only changing that will take place is to replace their trainers with wellies (which should be left in school). Please ensure all your children's clothes are named.

Class email addresses - during lockdown, we set up class email accounts for you to contact the teachers. These are now closed and will not be monitored, therefore please send any enquiries to the school office (email address above).

Entry/Exit to the school site - thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this week with the drop off and collection arrangements. A few issues have come to light which I hope we can address here:

* Please keep to the left at all times, particularly when moving through narrow exits/entrances. The times that you have been allocated are a window, and must be adhered to, to ensure the safety of all. Likewise, the entrances have been allocated to year groups to minimise the number of people using them, therefore we respectfully ask you to only use the ones allocated for your child's year group. However, if you are collecting an older sibling from the lower school playground, we have now discussed as a staff the need for those children to be released at a similar time to avoid children waiting unsupervised.

If you are collecting an older sibling from their classroom after collecting a younger one from the lower school, you must leave the site via Long lane and walk round to the other entrances. **NB no-one should be crossing the school site from one playground to the other.** If this does not make sense or you have any queries, please contact the office. There have been some issues with parents stopping to talk in the middle of paths which has led to congestion. If you need to talk to someone, please move over to the field/grassed spaces to enable social distancing. Likewise, please do not engage staff in lengthy conversations, please email the office who will pass your message on. Thank you.

Covid tests - it is very important that if you or any member of your household has a Covid test that you inform the school as soon as possible. Again, once you receive the results please inform the school. We have to record this data to

the Local Authority. All details and information will be confidential.

Attendance - please see letter [here](#) regarding this.

Cool Milk - under 5's receive milk in school free of charge but parents can choose to pay for it beyond their child's 5th birthday. Please go to www.coolmilk.com for more details.

Free school meals - if your circumstances have changed and you think you may be entitled to free school meals for your child, please click [here](#) to apply.

Plant to Plate tokens - we are still collecting these! The deadline is 30th September so please send any tokens in via your child/class tray by this date.

[SEND blog](#) - please click here to view this updated blog.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Bev Theobald

Head Teacher