

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Return to School Summer 2021 – Attitudes to Learning and Expectations**

Since our return to face to face teaching and having all our children back in school from the 8th March, we have worked hard to meet both the children's academic and wellbeing needs. We are fully aware of how tough it has been for both children and staff; some have coped well and the pandemic has made little difference, where as some have struggled, and are still finding the return to "normal" school life a challenge.

As part of our support we have:

- Adjusted timetables to give shorter sessions and movement breaks as well as snacks – this is to help with adjusting to the increased concentration/focus time required in the school day compared to home
- Increased our adult ratios where we can – this is to help the children adjust to 1:6, 1:15 or even 1:30 as a ratio compared to a home situation of possibly 1:1
- Assessed the children's knowledge and skills - this is so that we are able to plug gaps and adjust misconceptions
- Increased PE and physical activity (including swimming) – this is to help with building core strength, stamina and fitness levels as well as supporting mental health
- Increased the Personal and Social education provided as well as delivering specific wellbeing sessions – this is to help with supporting children's mental health.
- Identified the specific needs that some children might have in returning to school
- Praised, rewarded and encouraged where we have seen children really putting in the effort to succeed.

As we returned from the Easter holidays a couple of weeks ago and moved into the summer term, we noticed that a number of children were still struggling with daily routines and expectations of behaviour that we have as a school. Through discussions at staff meetings, senior leader meetings, meetings with other schools and with Governors it has become clear that we all need to work hard with you as parents to support our children in the rest of this term so that they are equipped for the rest of this term, and the next school year

A couple of the things that we have noticed an increase in is:

- the use of inappropriate language, name calling and inappropriate/unkind remarks to others.
- an increase in the amount of screen time our young children have had

These are not issues that are specific to Wraysbury Primary, in fact it has been identified as a real issue by my Windsor and Maidenhead Headteacher colleagues, and other schools nationwide.

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In response to the above and in order to support our children and you as parents we have:

- Reminded our children of our rules, expectations and non-negotiables - attached for your information
- Reminded our children that there will be sanctions such as loss of playtimes and contact with parents for inappropriate language, and more serious behaviour

We would like to ask you as parents to work with us in supporting our children's attitudes to learning by:

- Ensuring that they are in school as much as possible and on time (we actually start to teach individuals and small groups from 8.40 if they are in school promptly)
- Ensuring that your child is in the correct school uniform and has all their kit and equipment, especially their Reading Book and Record Book
- Ensuring that your child completes their homework, including reading every night if possible
- Reading through and reinforcing our expectations and non-negotiables with them at home
- Restricting their screen time, being aware of what they are doing online by checking phones and tablets

We will be sharing some materials and resources with you in the near future that we have purchased for you to help with the above and we may be able to provide some face to face training and support for you as restrictions continue to lift.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Brech the Phase Leader. In addition to them, there is of course Miss Hodge who is our Child and Family Support worker who can always help with access to the Borough and other specific professionals.

Yours sincerely

Alison Fox

Headteacher