

Hamsey Community Primary School Cooksbridge

Skylark Federation
Executive Headteacher
Mr Stewart James BA (Hons).QTS

Head Of School
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Monday 20th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the final stages of a very unusual year, we would like to update you on our plans for next year and our school organisation from the start of September.

As with many things, through pain and adversity there are always positives and new learning opportunities. For our school, this has resulted in the development of an online learning facility about which we will be sharing more information with you at the start of the next academic year. All schools within the federation now have the infrastructure to deliver 'live' learning opportunities if or when there may be need for it.

An extremely exciting development for next year which has come from a considerable amount of planning will be a 'unique' Skylark curriculum. Throughout the year we will be moving to a project based curriculum whereby teachers will have the freedom to focus on key subjects at different points in the year. This will enable the children to enhance their age appropriate skills and knowledge of subjects such as Geography, History, Science and Design and Technology in a much deeper way than they have previously, and link these skills to key concepts and philosophical questions that will hopefully increase their enjoyment of learning. Our initial project of the year is entitled 'Take One Treasure'. Once again, we will be sharing more information about this at the start of the new year.

We will be offering as many additional and enrichment curriculum opportunities as possible. We will be continuing with the opportunities at Cumnor House and Chailey Secondary School. We will also be working with South Downs National Park as well as championing sports, forest school and local community initiatives.

We are aware that the pandemic has affected families in many different ways; many have reported heightened and sometimes extreme anxiety as well as feelings of isolation; for example. We would like you to know these feelings are quite normal and not unique to individual families. As we return in September for the start of the new school year, please do come and talk to us if your children or your family require any additional support to help with these situations and to facilitate a safe and happy return to a normal school day. Please be reassured, the teachers and class teams will be sensitively guiding in-class pastoral support around this initially as well as focusing on topics such as friendships and the importance of being kind.

The first day of school for children in Years 1-6 will be Monday 7th September. We want to continue to ensure we do not have a large gathering at the school gates; we will stagger children arriving and being collected from school. The youngest children, who will be starting

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school life with a staggered start have already been informed of our plans to welcome them.

Collection/ Drop Off:

Classes	Hedgehogs & Badgers	Foxes & Owls
Drop Off	8.30 am	8.45am
Collection	2.45pm	3.00pm

*Red indicates wooden gate by Badgers

*Black indicates black side gate.

Reception - To come in past the black side gate at 9am with parents being able to bring them around.

All children will need to wear school uniform and on PE days to wear their PE kit into school for the day. This means there will be no PE kits left in classrooms and can be taken home daily. A schedule of PE days will be sent to parents at the start of September.

Breakfast and After School Clubs

These will commence from Monday 7th September. Breakfast Club will be open from 7.45 - 8.30am (Monday – Friday). After School Club will be open from 3 -5.30pm (Monday – Thursday). We will be restricting numbers to 15 children. ***Breakfast and After School Club will need to be booked and paid for in advance of the sessions.***

School INSET days for 2020/21 are as follows:

Thursday 3rd September 2020

Friday 4th September 2020

Monday 2nd November 2020

Monday 22nd February 2021

Friday 23 July 2021

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and enjoyable Summer holiday and we are very much looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 7th September.

Very Best Wishes,

Mr S James
Executive Headteacher

Mr R Newlands
Head of School



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