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Dear Parents and Carers

### **Summer Learning and Information for September**

The end of the school year is in sight. It was not the year that any of us were expecting but it's worth reflecting just how well the children and staff have done to stay positive and focused during this time. I can only thank the children for their amazing attitude to learning, parents and carers for your resilience in supporting them and the teachers for their commitment to helping the children stay on track. I also want to thank Ellingham families for the welcome you have given me in my first year of headship here. I am so grateful for your words of support and encouragement through some very tricky decision-making. You have made it feel so much less overwhelming.

While this time has been challenging, we have adopted an approach that ensures that we are creating a safe environment for the children and staff that have been in school. This means we are in a good position to welcome our children back into school safely in September but it does necessitate changes to the organisation and logistics of school, particularly around drop off and pick up. **School starts on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

### **Summer Learning**

We recognise that it's been tricky stepping in as class teacher during term time and that everyone deserves a break from regular classroom activities so these will stop on Wednesday, as staff will be attending INSET. However, we are keen that children maintain a level of engagement with learning so that they are in a strong position when they return in September. As such, we have put together a selection of learning challenges for the children to access. Some of the activities even have prizes. These will be available on the website on Wednesday 22 July.

### **Class and Year Group – September**

We are looking forward to seeing all of our children next year. All of the children that have returned to school have been absolutely delighted to be back and enjoyed the routine of lessons. In line with Government guidelines, each class will be considered a distinct self-contained group and contact with others will be kept to a minimum. Handwashing and a higher level of cleaning will continue to feature as part of daily practice.

## Drop Off and Pick Up – allocated gates

In order to reduce crowding and, therefore mass gathering, we have allocated the Harrow Close gate for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and the Ellingham Road gate for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6. For families that have children across the key stages, we will allocate you the gate nearest your address for dropping off your child / children (email to follow). Timings for pick up and drop off will change in order to stagger entry and exit to school in a safe, socially distanced way to minimise the number of contacts children and their families encounter. Staff will be on duty so that you can hand over your child at the gate as parents and carers will not be permitted on site. Each class will have an allocated area for lining up on the school premises and if you are dropping off more than one child before their specified time they will be able to enter school and line up.

Year group	Gate	Drop off	Collection
Nursery	Harrow Close	8.30	11.30
Reception	Harrow Close	8.45	3.05
Year 1	Harrow Close	8.40	3.05
Year 2	Harrow Close	8.35	3.00
Year 3	Ellingham Road	8.35	3.05
Year 4	Ellingham Road	8.40	3.10
Year 5	Ellingham Road	8.45	3.15
Year 6	Ellingham Road	8.50	3.20

Explorers morning and after school club will be operating its usual hours, from 7.30am and until 4.30pm and 6.00pm for its afternoon sessions. Children can use either gate to enter.

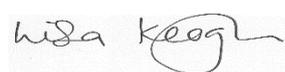
Please walk to school wherever possible. It is really important that you arrive on time and leave promptly to get the children in quickly and calmly, with minimum anxiety, and to prevent a backlog at the gates.

### Lunches

Hot lunches will be available to order from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Our rota for eating and playing has been staggered to ensure that the children are not crowded into one space. Meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are free due to government funding and we would encourage you to take up this offer. All meals should be booked via [www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk](http://www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk).

We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. There is a newsletter available (please [click](#) here) to celebrate the children's most recent achievements.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Keogh  
Headteacher