



Godolphin Primary School
'living, learning and laughing together'

Newsletter Issue 1
11/09/2020

Newsletter available on our website

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another school year. I hope that you all managed to have some time to relax and enjoy the sunshine over the summer, despite the restrictions in place. I would also like to offer a warm welcome to all of our new pupils and their families.

It really is wonderful to have all of the children back and to see the school full of life again. We may have to remain in our 'bubbles' but it is clear that this hasn't affected the children's love of learning or their excitement of being back in school. There is a real buzz both in the classrooms and the playground. The children have settled back into school life well and have adapted quickly to the new routines. This is something to really celebrate and you should be proud of the resilience your children have shown. Thank you for preparing them so well in returning to school and for following all of the new systems we have had to put into place.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of the staff for their hard work in getting the school ready for the return of all of our pupils and for settling the children so well.

I appreciate at this time that it is not as easy to speak to staff but please get in touch with us through emailing or calling the school office.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Lucy Wandless

General reminders:

Drop-off & collection times:

Thank you to you all for helping to make the drop-off and pick-up of all the children work so smoothly. The school gate will be open at 3.05pm in the afternoon to allow parents/carers to enter the school playground and stand on one of the lines, and not have to congregate outside. Just a reminder to keep any other younger children with you at all times. The school children will then be ready for collection at 3.15pm.

Milk

If you wish your child to have milk (from Year 1 onwards) you will need to complete (and pay for) a registration form on the Cool Milk website. Details can be found here: [Cool Milk](#)

Morning snacks:

A morning snack (normally fruit or raisins) will be available to all children. There is no need to send your child in with a snack.

Lunch reminder:

Just a reminder for Year 3 parents – your child no longer qualifies for a Universal Free School Meal. School lunches cost £2.30. Please see Mrs Thomas if you have any questions.

Asthma inhalers:

If your child has asthma please bring an inhaler into school for them (if you've not already done so). Thanks.

Important Diary Dates:

2020/21 Inset Days:

- 3rd & 4th September 2020
- 4th January 2021
- 22nd & 23rd July 2021

Half-Term: 26th – 30th October

Flu immunisations: Weds 11th November

PE Days:

- **Emeralds:** Tuesday & Thursday
- **Diamonds:** Monday & Friday
- **Zircons:** Monday & Wednesday

Please can children come dressed in appropriate clothing on these days.

Safeguarding update – Social Media, Blue Whale Challenges

This update is being sent to parents/carers to highlight a potential peer-trend risk that has been reported as re-emerging worldwide. The prevalent use of social media in the daily lives of our young communities serves to magnify the potential risk presented by these dangerous trends. What?

The Blue Whale Challenge allegedly sees teenagers follow a series of accounts on social media that instruct them to take part and Live stream 50 challenges in 50 days. The challenge reportedly starts with watching a scary movie and eventually they escalate in extremes to include self-harm. Wider risk context:

Social media platforms play a central role in the contemporary lifestyles of young people across the UK. Over the last 5 years, the emergence of dangerous 'peer challenge' games have been anecdotally reported on these platforms, across Europe and beyond. Within the UK, recorded cases of serious harm linked to these 'challenge' cases remains low but present.

The context of this risk is a series of daily social media issued challenges, which escalate in terms of both severity and harm, culminating in a risk to life. Users are often coerced and manipulated into continuing with the increasingly risky daily tasks, through threats of harm to family members. These challenges can take on a range of 'challenge' names.

What's the advice? Parents are urged to talk to their children about online trends among their peers and chat to them regularly about what games their friends are talking about. Talk to them about how they may face peer pressure online as they would offline. Ensure that you have set up their device safely to stop your child being able to find self-harm websites and images.

Cross-Country League:

The Cross-Country League will be run at each school. The first race for all Godolphin pupils in Years 2-6 will be next Tuesday during school time. Please can these children come to school in PE clothes. Thank you.

Music Lessons:

We are planning to resume music lessons this term, but are awaiting the final confirmation with Cornwall Music Service Trust. We will let you know when we know what lessons we will be able to run.

Parent Pay:

We will be working to get Parent Pay updated and ready to use in the next few days. We will also set up all new Reception parents on the system. Given the current situation with COVID-19, Parent Pay is the preferred method of payment.

New Phone System:

We had a new phone system installed at the end of last term. Please can we ask for your understanding and patience whilst Mrs Thomas gets accustomed to the new system! There is an option to record a message should you be phoning regarding a child being absent. If you experience any difficulties, please feel free to email us. Thank you!

Breakfast Club & After-School Clubs:

Just a reminder these are both open. Please pre-book Breakfast Club direct.

After-School Club can be booked by emailing Mrs Thomas. However, given the current climate we are requesting you try to give us a weeks' notice, but a minimum of two days.

Updated information forms:

We usually send home forms to update permissions and check key information (such as contact numbers and addresses). However, under the current restrictions, this is not so simple. We will be sending the forms home electronically. Please contact Mrs Thomas if you think this may be a problem for you so we can sort a solution.