



Godolphin Primary School
'living, learning and laughing together'

Newsletter Issue 2
18/09/2020
Newsletter available on our website

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to continue to see all the children return to school so happy and keen to learn.

And a special mention also needs to be made to the new Reception children who have settled so well. We look forward to welcoming them next week for their first full week.

I appreciate there continues to be so much information regarding COVID-19 and we will endeavour to keep you updated with the latest guidance from the Department for Education. However, if you have any concerns please do contact us.

Attached with this newsletter is a letter from the Director of Public Health for Cornwall Council which we suggest you read through.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Lucy Wandless

General reminders:

Drop-off & collection times:

Thank you to you all for continuing to make the drop-off and pick-up of all the children work so smoothly. Please could we request that parents keep the 'exit' gate free so other children and parents can leave whilst observing the social distancing guidelines.

Milk

UPDATE: Apologies there was an error in last weeks' newsletter. Milk is provided for all children under 5 years old. If you wish your child to have milk once they turn 5, you will need to complete (and pay for) a registration form on the Cool Milk website. Details can be found here: [Cool Milk](#)

Asthma inhalers:

If your child has asthma please bring an inhaler into school for them (if you've not already done so). Please ensure you have completed an Asthma Medical form if you have 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.

Emeralds Update:

All the new Reception children have settled exceptionally well this week, so a huge well done to them all!

This year, due to the current restrictions, reading will look a bit different than usual!

- Each child will be given 2 reading books a week to be read at home. They will be changed each **Tuesday** so please make sure that the books are in Book Bags ready for changing.
- Every child needs to read at home **every day**. Please date/sign/comment the reading diary each day.
- There are question/activity ideas inside the covers of most of our reading books for you to use.
- It is extremely beneficial for children to re-read books to help consolidate key phonics and reading skills and to give confidence so children will be expected to repeat each book a number of times each week at home.
- In school, we will be focussing on reading skills in small Guided Reading groups.
- Choosing books (a book your child has chosen from our selection in our book corner) - we will aim to change Choosing Books on Fridays but this may vary so please make sure that these books are in Book Bags every day.

- For **Reception children**, reading will start gradually but the children will receive their first books (picture books to encourage story telling) and a Reading Diary next week. They have already chosen their first Choosing Book.
- **Phonics** - Phonics sessions will begin next week so please check Book Bags for sound sheets etc to practice at home daily. Phonics is the foundation for successful reading and writing and so it is vital that sounds are practised regularly.
- Please speak to a member of Emerald Class staff at drop off or pick up if you have any questions.

Diamonds Update:

The Diamond class have returned to school with excitement and enthusiasm for learning. We have enjoyed sharing Oliver Jeffers book Here We Are, which is being used to support children to raise questions, express concerns, build resilience and reconnect with each other as a community.

Reading in the Diamond Class - for the moment.

The expectation is that you will hear your child read every night and sign the reading record. Children that are working through the Reading scheme will be given 3 books to take home on a Monday. These need to be returned by Friday in order for them to be used for other children the following week. Children then have free choice over the weekend to read books from home. If your child is an independent reader they will be able to change their book as required, returning their book to the book exchange in class where it can remain for 72 hours before going back into the class library. We shall hear the children read individually, during Guided reading sessions and group work. Any questions/queries please contact Mrs Knight.

Zircon Update:

The Zircons have made an excellent start to the new school year and have bonded well with their new classmates. We have been working hard to establish our routines and polish our personal and social skills, along with other virtues, both in and out of the classroom.

The children have had lots of opportunity to self-reflect on their own thoughts and feelings, prompted by our mini-topic based on the book – Here We Are - by Oliver Jeffers.

With desks set out in rows, we are reading daily as a class, and are currently enjoying some well-known Greek myths in preparation for our next topic. We ask that you continue to read with your own child every night at home and sign their reading records.

Useful forms on the website:

Next week a number of useful forms will be uploaded onto the website so parents can download and complete and send to Mrs Thomas in the school office. The forms will include:

- Asthma Medical form
- General Medical form
- School Uniform Order form
- Request for leave form
- Medical consent form

Free School Meal Update:

During this unsettled period we suspect due to changes in peoples financial situation more people than usual may become entitled to Free School Meals. If this applies to you, please follow this link www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolmeals to apply for Free School Meals.

Spellings:

Spellings for all Year 2's – Year 6's have been sent home today. Year 1 spellings will start next week.

All spellings for year's 1-6 will be done on Fridays - previous words tested and new words given.

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.

Music Lessons:

We are planning to resume music lessons this term. Guitar lessons are due to start on Wednesday (23rd September). We will contact individual parents directly about the details. We will be in touch soon regarding other music lessons.

Parent Pay:

Parent Pay will be updated next week. 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.

Secondary school applications:

If your child is in Year 6, parents will need to apply for their secondary school place by 31 October 2020. An information leaflet was sent home with children this week.