

Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

Jordan's Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading RG7 3LP

Tel: 0118 983 2332

Email : office@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk

Website: www.mrsblandsinfants.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Nisbet

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs S Williams

Friday 3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by saying welcome. Firstly, welcome back to all of our year one and year two children, it has been great to see you coming in with such enthusiasm in the mornings and we hope you have enjoyed the games that you have been playing. Secondly, welcome to the children that started with us in our nurseries and those that came into reception this week. You all settled in so nicely and were keen to learn. It has been lovely getting to know you.

I would also like to welcome our new staff:

- Mrs Corker, (Hazel Class teacher)
- Mr Brown (Learning Support Assistant in EYFS)
- Miss Porter (Teaching Assistant in Rowan Class)
- Miss Lambarth (Teaching Assistant in Cherry class)
- Mrs Sutherland (Receptionist in the school office)
- Rebecca Fry (Housekeeping)
- Mrs Sharratt (Teaching Assistant in Little Acorns Class)

I have to say it has been amazing to return to some normality with regards to our start and end times and I hope the children have enjoyed coming together once again in their year groups and for assembly and lunchtimes in the hall (although assemblies are still in slightly smaller groups for the time being).

Going forward this term, we are welcoming visitors back into school, with an appointment. If you do have an appointment booked, please ensure that you complete an LFT test and forward the result email that comes once it has been logged on the NHS website to us at lateralflowtesting@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk.

At this time we are still unable to invite parents into the school via reception for general queries or concerns. Please continue to email us at reception@mrsblands.w-berks.sch.uk or call us on 0118 9832332.

Our Key Stage One children (Year 1 and 2) have been enjoying the early morning games at drop off. A reminder that drop off is between 8.45am and 9.00am. The nice long summer has meant parents have been super keen to drop off children and this has meant queues have formed and blocked the pavement. We will ensure we are prompt at opening the gate at 8.45am and from next week will be using the one way system, we had last term for parents dropping off, to try and reduce the congestion at the gates. If you have younger children, please drop them off first and this will also alleviate the queuing.

We attach our provisional dates for the year. We have booked educational visits for the year and will be sending more details of these out next week. Parents will then have the option to pay up front for these or in instalments.

Following Public Health England and Department for Education guidance, we continue to have a Covid risk assessment to reduce the spread of the virus. This is on our website. We would ask that parents continue to wear facemasks whilst on site for drop off and collection and that any other visits to the school are pre-arranged. Parents/children should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).

To inspire a love of learning through creativity and challenge

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If pupils develop symptoms at school, however mild, they will continue to be sent home to isolate for the required period.

NHS test and trace will now give advice to close contacts, if they need to isolate. As we are no longer required to operate in 'bubbles', larger groups of children will not be sent home unless we are advised to do so by Public Health (e.g. if more than 10% of pupils in a group test positive).

I look forward to the year ahead and hope that gradually all elements of school life will return to 'normal'.

Kind regards

Mrs C Nisbet