



The Hayfield Herald

Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone, and a special welcome to all of our new children and families joining us in Reception and other year groups. It is remarkable that we are full in most of our now twelve classes across the school when five years ago we opened with only ten children! It is lovely to welcome you all even though this isn't the way we would have liked to greet you back to school.

This week our Reception children have started properly after they had their stay and play sessions last week. Usually we would have done these in the summer and had home visits at the start of term but with the restrictions we decided to do the home visits virtually in the summer and have the children and parents join us (safely and socially distanced) when we started back.

The rest of the school have had a fabulous start and we are really pleased to welcome Mrs Wood and Mrs Hindwood as our new Year 3 and 4 teachers as well as welcoming back our fantastic Miss Lewis who has returned to support in Squirrel Class. And of course it's now a proper start for Mrs Bellamy, Mrs Bosworth, Mrs Smith and Mrs Logue who joined us during lockdown.

It has been a joy to be back in school and hear the classrooms full again. The children have settled back brilliantly and are enjoying their new classes and their learning. We believe it really helped giving the opportunity for all children to return at the end of the summer with many of the children benefitting from being back in school before the holidays.

The big news of the summer is the partial opening of the permanent road to the school. We are disappointed it isn't fully open but we are very pleased that we won't have another winter on the access road! Although it is still very busy in the mornings it is definitely much safer and easier for everyone to get to school and leave much quicker. Thank you all for being so good and considerate with each other and making it work. After Covid we are looking at continuing with a staggered start but will probably have the older children arriving first. We'll obviously keep you updated on any plans though.

The other news is that we also have full cable broadband connection which is huge for us. You will probably not be aware but we have had five years of constant issues with the satellite broadband that we had that was very unreliable. For those of you who are technically interested we now have a dedicated superfast cable connection direct to our school. We are also ready to have mains electricity and gas (we have always had mains water and had mains sewage for 3 years). These are ready to go but require some works at the front entrance so we said they will have to wait until half term as we didn't want any disruption at the beginning of term.

Inside school it is segregated into bubbles and our lovely group areas are sadly not being used. One extra area we have added is a beach window seated area outside Year 3 for the children to work at if they want to. In a couple of weeks, we will be having our playground canopy installed to provide an outside working area for Key Stage 2 and a quiet area for playtimes. We have raised the money for this from kind donations from Persimmon Homes, TOPs, KBC and our own funding. We have also bought some nice picnic benches made from recycled plastic to go there and also outside Year 6 for them to use.

Thank you all for your understanding and support in making the return to school with all the measures in place so successful. I believe we still have a long road ahead and we may have further restrictions in the future but we will tackle them together and keep our school, children, staff and families safe. We will get through this!

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid.
The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go³ (Joshua 1:9)*

Joy - Integrity - Fellowship