



# Sedlescombe Newsletter No. 28

## WELCOME BACK

We hope that you all had a relaxing Easter Holiday and were able to get out and about as we were lucky enough to have some good weather over the holidays.

It is lovely to have all the children back after the Easter break and so keen and interested in their learning.

## COLLECTING AND DROPPING OFF

Over the holidays with further removal of restrictions we have been considering the drop off and pick up from school and how to make these safer and smoother now that we do not need to have staggered starts and ends to the school day. We are going to make some changes based on some of our key concerns:

- Children using the road as a playground at the start of the day.
- A large number of parents having to hang around at the start of the day waiting to drop children off due to the staggered start times (causes the road to be used as a waiting area and additional congestion in the car park)
- Learning being disturbed at the end of the day as parents need to wait outside classrooms
- Children playing unsupervised on the school play equipment at the end of the day and the risk of injury
- Congestion in the cloakrooms, especially in Years 1 and 2 delaying the start to the school day

## START OF DAY ROUTINE

From Monday we are going to have one drop off time during which all children should arrive at school. The drop off time will be 8:40 am to 8:55 am with the close of register at 9:15 am.

A member of staff will be on the school gate for the full 15 minutes of school drop off. Children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6) will be expected to come into school unaccompanied by an adult (this has not changed) to build their independence and reduce congestion. On arrival they will head straight to class where there will be a morning task for them to start work on. The children can arrive anytime between 8:40 am and 8:55 am, but they do need to be in class for 8:55 am when the register will be taken.

Children in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) will also head straight around to their classroom when they arrive at school. A member of the Key Stage 1 team will also be on gate duty to help any children who may be a little reluctant to come into school. This will build their independence, reduce congestion in the cloakroom and allow learning to start more promptly.

Children in reception will have the same drop off time as

the rest of the school and will also be encouraged to start developing more independence in preparation for Year 1. Mrs. Evenden or Mrs. Pierce will be waiting at the gates to the school to meet and greet the children. Parents will leave children at the school gate and they will then be walked around to class by the member of staff.

## END OF DAY ROUTINE

At the end of the day we are going to keep the staggered pick up times as many parents have more than one child to collect from different parts of the school. This also causes less congestion so that we can hand children over to parents more safely.

Children in Key Stage 2 will continue to be collected at 3:15 pm. The only change is that the children in Year 3 and Year 4 will be brought to the playground gates to be handed over to parents. Year 3 will be collected from the small playground gate and Year 4 with Year 5 at the large playground gate.

Children in the infants will continue to be collected at 3:25 pm with no change to Years 1 and 2. Reception will now be brought down to the playground gates rather than being collected from the classroom door to help to prepare them for September. They will be collected from the small playground gate.

## LATENESS

In a recent pupil voice activity we spoke to all of the children who are regularly late to school and without exception all of the children said how much they hate being late. Even though they are welcomed into school nicely by staff, they feel embarrassed and worried walking in to a full classroom or sometimes a full hall if they arrive during worship. They feel disorientated as the learning may have started and they have to wait to be told what to do. We don't want any of our children having this start to their day, so we need your help to make sure that they arrive on time, by 8:55 am at the latest. Thank you very much.

Children arriving between 8:55 am and 9:15 am are marked as late, but any children arriving after 9:15 am at the close of registration get an absence mark for the whole morning session. Therefore the 9:15 am deadline is really essential for your child's well-being, learning and attendance. This is a statutory requirement on schools to record children with an absence mark and not something we choose to do as a school.

## SWIMMING

A reminder that we start swimming on Wednesday next week and in some classes we do need additional helpers, especially Year 5 and Year 6. Thank you very much.

