

HEATHFIELD NEWS

17TH JULY 2020

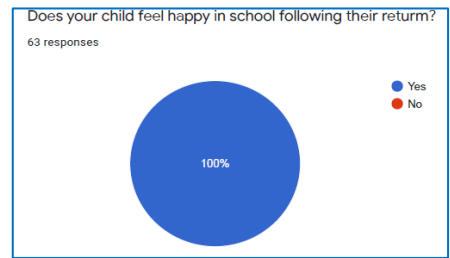
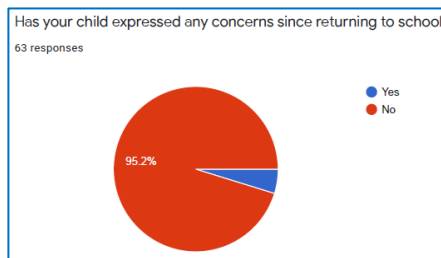
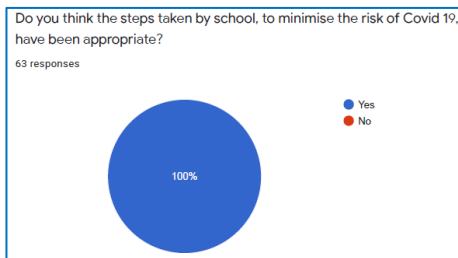
KERSALL DRIVE CAMPUS



The last day of term will be next Thursday 23rd July. School will remain closed throughout the Summer holidays. School will reopen to all children in Years 1 to 6 on Wednesday 2nd September. Children in F1 and F2 will be having a period of transition into school which Ms West will have arranged with you already.

Transition: Thank you to all of you who made it to your Zoom meetings on Wednesday. The teachers were a little nervous to be live in front of the new children but really enjoyed seeing so many smiling faces. Teachers have set the children a task to do over the holidays so get involved and share your work, your favourite things or send a postcard to your new teacher ready for September.

Feedback from Parents: We had 63 responses from a recent questionnaire sent out to parents/carers of children who have either accessed Rainbow Club or have returned to school in F2, Year1, Year 5 and Year 6. The results were very positive and we would like to thank everyone for their support over the last 4 months. The feedback has been shared with staff.



Staff leaving at the end of term: We will be saying goodbye to Miss Allen who has been at Heathfield for 10 years as teacher, Senco and Assistant Head. Miss Allen has worked at both campuses and has been working in Year 5/6 since returning from maternity leave in June.

We are also saying 'Happy Retirement' to Mrs Sims after 30 years at Heathfield. Mrs Sims has seen many changes at Heathfield over the years and her experience and support for our younger pupils will be greatly missed. Mrs Sims is currently supporting the Rainbow Club at Scotland Road.

It has been a strange time for Mrs Sims and Miss Allen because Heathfield is so quiet at the end of term but we all wish them the very best for their next adventures.

Foodbank Collection: We would like to support the Bestwood and Bulwell Foodbank by donating some food for them to give to those in need over the summer holidays. We have had families use this service in the past and it would be nice if we were able to offer something to keep the foodbank topped up. Please leave your donation at the office and we will take it to the foodbank on Thursday next week. Thank You!



Left Property: As the school closure came quickly and at a time when many families had already decided to self-isolate, we have LOTS of **PE bags, book bags, lunch boxes, jumpers and coats** that were not taken home in March. If you know your child left something behind, we will be putting all of the items on tables outside the office on Monday and Tuesday next week so please pop by and collect your child's property. We need to clear the classrooms of all personal property so that they are cleaned ready for the new classes in September.

Rainbow Reading Challenge 20/21: Children have been tasked with designing some new reading challenge cards for the new academic year. Send any entries via email to your teacher or drop them in at the office.

Contact us during the holidays: We have a new email address which you can use should you need any support over the summer break - families@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk This email address will be checked regularly by our safeguarding team. All other enquiries should go to the admin@heathfield.nottingham.sch.uk address.

September re-opening: Mr Fullwood will be writing to all parents next week outlining the arrangements for the new academic year. As stated last week there will be some changes and some new arrangements which will need to be followed to ensure we can manage the health and safety risks for children, parents and staff particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Please continue to read all letters thoroughly.

Key information:



- **Uniform** – from September all children will be required to wear full school uniform. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct items of clothing to school. Uniform includes **black flat shoes** and no novelty headbands (cat ears/unicorn horns).
- **PE kits** – Children will need to wear a full PE kit for their PE lessons. Our PE kit uniform is a plain white T-Shirt, black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms, a black or navy jumper and trainers. In a change to normal, children should wear PE kit to school on their allocated day rather than their uniform.
- **Early Birds** – until we have our systems up and running with Breakfast Club, staggered drop-off times and staff ensuring 'bubbles' are well established, there will be **NO** Free Early Bird breakfast provision on offer. Apologies for any inconvenience.
- **Breakfast Club:** From 7:30am children will use the club entrance and then go into the hall
Afterschool Club: 3:30pm – 6pm - children will be in the hall and will be dismissed from the club door
- **Year 5/6 children from September:** If you wish for your child to develop some independence and to start walking to and from school, please put your request in writing to Miss Dickens so we are able to ensure all children are safe at the end of the day. Children who are coming to school on their own may have a mobile phone with them. These phones will go up to class with them but your child must hand it over to the teacher who will store it in a plastic zipped bag and will lock it away for safe keeping. Children walking home alone will leave school at normal home time.
- **Communication:** Where possible we will be using technology and phones to communicate around the school to prevent staff bursting the bubbles. The office team are not able to visit phases unless in an emergency so if you need to get a message to the teacher or are bringing in a lunchbox or water bottle after the start of the day, you must leave it at the office in time for messages to be sent to the teachers. We are using Microsoft Teams on laptops, tablets and phones as a way of communicating to staff around school.

Mixed classes FAQs

Why are the classes being mixed?

There are a number of reasons following the Covid closure why mixed classes are a good option. Since Kersall Drive opened in 2015 we have operated in single year groups – we are now able to revert back to how Heathfield was organised historically (having mixed classes in KS1&2). Our Y5/6 children have always been mixed as it establishes strong relationships and increases maturity of the older pupils in each class.

This year with Covid taking away a large proportion of the current academic year, around 30% of children will be able to stay with their teacher for another year, settling classes back in to school in the best way we can.

What are the benefits of the mixed classes?

Children are able to remain in their class for 2 years (Y1/2, Y3/4, Y5/6) and usually this is with the same teacher who gets to know them very well and ensures a smoother transition at the start of an academic year. The children form new friendships across the year groups and have role models in class to support them as they move into new phase.

Will my child miss out on a year of work?

Our phases always work together and work on a 2-year cycle of topics. The National Curriculum is generally split over KS1 and KS2 and sometimes KS2 is split between Y3/4 and Y5/6 so there is no learning loss. Our subject leaders have worked hard to ensure good progression of knowledge and skills across themes and year groups on our curriculum pathways. Maths may be taught in year groups rather than classes but all other subjects are taught as classes and are planned to meet the needs of all children.

Will the work be too easy for the older children and too hard for the younger ones?

The work is always differentiated based on the prior knowledge of each child. Teachers are skilled in finding the gaps in learning and addressing these through the organisation of their class. All children will be working towards their predicted level and this will be assessed accordingly each term using statutory tests for each single year group. If the children feel the work is too easy or hard, the teacher will address this in the planning and in the support offered where necessary. By the time we return to school the children will have missed 15 school weeks of learning – teachers will be working hard to ensure the gaps in learning are narrowed and that the children settle quickly back into the routines and new rules of school.

Will my child remain with their teacher for 2 years from September?

It is hoped that the younger children in each class will spend 2 years with the teacher which is a good solution to the issues of transitioning back into school following lockdown or even after a school holiday. We have been able to ensure half of the current Y1, Y3 and Y5 children will remain with their teacher from this academic year and will therefore be able to be role models for the new children in class. All classes currently have less than 30 children.

NEW APP - PARENT LITE: As you may be aware, the NHS will be introducing the ‘Test and Trace’ service. The service will allow them to trace the spread of the virus, isolate new infections and play a vital role in giving them early warning if the virus is increasing again, locally or nationally. As a school, we always need to ensure that your contact details and your child/children’s information is up to date and accurate should we need to contact you for any reason. To support this we have a new convenient way for you to **access, review and request changes** to the data held on you and your children.

We will hopefully soon be able to send you an activation email for you to access this new parent app at your own convenience via smartphone, tablet or PC – anytime, anywhere.

What will you find in SIMS Parent Lite App:

- School term, inset dates and contact details available at the click of a button
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency. If you have more than one child at school, you’ll have access to this information for all your children, from the same app

Getting started with the SIMS Parent Lite App

1. We will send you an activation email to the email address we have on record for you, simply click on the link from your tablet, PC or smartphone to activate your account
2. You can then login using your normal **Facebook, Twitter, Google** or **Microsoft** username and password
3. From your smartphone or tablet, download the app from the Google Play or Apple App store - search for **SIMS Parent Lite**
4. From a PC or Windows phone, login online at www.sims-parent.co.uk

Please note that your activation email is unique to you and should not be used by anyone else. If you require an additional login then please contact your school. Your activation email will expire after 14 days if it is not used, please contact your school if you require a replacement after this date.