

Hardwick Weekly Catch Up – 4 September 2020



Welcome back to the start of the new school year. I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and after three days, it already feels like we've been back at school a long time! After not being in school for such a long time, due to school closure and the summer holidays, I'm really pleased to say the children have settled in well to all their new classes and classrooms and they are enjoying being back at school. It's been lovely seeing the children getting back to some sense of 'normality', socializing with friends and wanting to learn!

We'd like to send a warm welcome all our new children and their parents/carers, and to our new teacher, Miss Warne, who is teaching Otter Class.

The weekly catch up goes out every Friday afternoon via email, with news and information about forthcoming events. Please look out for it. Obviously, with COVID-19 restrictions there is very little taking place at the moment, however as the term progresses, hopefully more things will be able to take place.

Thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding these past three days as we get used to a new system of drop off and collection. Overall things have gone well, but there are some alterations and improvements we would like to make **from Monday 7 September**, which we believe, will speed the process up and make it easier and better for you and our local neighbours. It is important that you read and understand the information overleaf about the drop off and collection arrangements from next week. Any questions, do please ask.

Car Parking and Travel To and From School

As we start a new school year, could I please remind everyone that if you are driving your child to school or collecting by car that you **please park in the community centre car park and not in Steward Road.**

A lot of children walk to school using Steward Road and we want them to do so safely. The residents park their cars here and we don't want to add more vehicles into the area at drop off and pick up. Also, please park responsibly if you use the roads around the school and please do not block resident's garages and drive ways. If you are able to walk, cycle or scoot to school, that is always preferable. Thank you for your understanding.

Update Change of Details

If you have changed any of your contact details over the summer, please ring the school office so we can update our records. Thank you.

These include change of:

- Name
- Address
- Telephone and/or mobile number
- Emergency contact person and number
- Doctors details
- Pick up arrangements, etc

School Dinner Money

School dinners for Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to Year 6) cost £2.40 per meal and dinner money must be paid by Monday or Friday of each week, unless you are in receipt of Free School Meals. We would prefer payment to be made online and details of this were sent out earlier this week. If you are unable to pay online then please put the exact money in a named envelope to be handed by your child to the class teacher at registration and not the office. Thank you.

School Book Bags

School book bags will be on sale from Monday 7 September.

- Small bags (hand held) £3
- Large bags (expandable with hand and shoulder strap) £5

Early Years parents can buy a bag from the Reception classes at home time and if your child is in Years 1-6, please ring the school office to place an order.

Morning and Afternoon Drop Off and Collection Times

New arrangements for Key Stage 1 – (Squirrel Class, Kingfisher Class and Dragonfly Class)

To ease the queues at the school gate, from **Monday 7 September**, **all three classes will be able to enter school from 8:45am-8:55am** (via the pedestrian gate driveway gate) and make their way to the playground, where you will be able line up in classes on marked lines. The order will be (from closest to the building) Squirrel Class, Kingfisher Class and Dragonfly Class.

Once there, a member of staff will come along the lines and give your child a squirt of hand sanitiser and then at **8:50am, the teachers will come out and take the children into class.** Once you have handed over your child, please leave the site as normal, keeping to the one-way system in place.

This now means **you can drop your child off between 8:45-8:55am, so please do not arrive before 8:45am.** If you arrive early please wait on the green next to the school or wait in your car if you have driven. This way we will avoid queues outside the school gates, ease congestion and keep everyone happy.

At home time, the gates will open at 3:00pm and you can make your way to the playground and please wait in your child's class line. The teachers will bring the children out at the times specified below. Again, if your collection time is not until 3:10pm you do not need to turn up early.

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & Year 2)	Drop off	Collection
Squirrel Class (Year 1)	Between 8:45-8:55am	3:10pm
Dragonfly Class (Year 2)	Between 8:45-8:55am	3:05pm
Kingfisher Class (Year 2)	Between 8:45-8:55am	3:10pm

Enter site: One parent with child enters via the driveway pedestrian path and enters the playground through the 5 bar gate. Please line up with your child on the playground on the marked lines.

Exit site: Through the small playground picket gate, along the path past the school garden/kitchen and out the driveway gates (these will be open).

The arrangements for Reception and Key Stage 2 will remain the same, all we ask is for you to not arrive early, but at the specified times and either wait on the green or in your car until it is time to drop or collect. This way we can still maintain social distancing for adults and make the drop off and collection stress free!

Dates for Diaries

Friday 18 September: Jeans for Genes Day (charity event – wear jeans to school for a donation)

Monday 26 – Friday 30 October: Half term

Thursday 5 November: Whole school flu vaccinations

Thursday 17 December: Last day of the autumn term

Friday 19 December - Friday 1 January: Christmas holidays (school closed)

Monday 4 January 2021: Start of the spring term – pupils return to school

Please note more dates may be added over the course of the term