



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a lot of fun today with the many **World Book Day** activities set up for the children's enjoyment. We had fun putting together the book 'shelfie' pictures, and I believe there are prizes for the winners. It was lovely to see so many of you at our LIVE meeting and launch of the day.

Please remember to watch the final virtual **celebration worship** today as it contains all the fabulous dances that have been sent in to accompany the Pharrell Williams' song 'Happy'. Have your tissues at the ready as it is a delight to watch.



As we come to the end of the second school lockdown I would like to thank every member of our school community – parents, Governors, staff and children – for the enormous support we have received under quite challenging circumstances.

An enormous **thank you** goes out to our **teaching staff** who have spent the past 9 weeks glued to their computer screens and Google Classroom uploading work, marking, supporting children and individual families with phone calls and messages, holding live meetings and lessons. At Durley School, we are extremely fortunate to have such an amazing team of dedicated **teaching and support staff**.

Thank you also to parents for all your support with home schooling and have managed the juggling act of being parent/teacher over the past two months alongside home and work commitments. We are extremely grateful for all the kind messages and phone calls of support over the past two months, which have helped to keep our spirits up.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

A few reminders about children's return to school on Monday in order to keep safe and keep the school open for children.



Children:

- Please could children bring their completed **home learning exercise books** back to school this Monday.
- Children in Purple class will need their **PE kit** for Tuesdays, Green and Red classes for Wednesdays and Blue and Yellow classes for Fridays.
- Doors and windows will continue to be open for ventilation so children will need to bring in a **coat**.
- We have attached a **social story** to support any children who are feeling a bit anxious about their return to school.
- ALL children are now allowed to enter the playground unaccompanied by an adult if they wish through either pupil entrance at **drop off**. Collection at the end of the day will still be from the classroom door.
- If your child was loaned a laptop, please can this be returned to school as soon as possible.

Parents:

- All adults collecting and dropping off children **MUST** wear a face mask (unless medically exempt).
- Please continue to remember to **social distance** at all times. I recognise that it might have been some time since you have seen friends, but we implore you not to congregate in groups on the pavement outside the school.
- Avoid stopping to talk to teachers at the door at drop off and collection.
- Any **messages** to be emailed via telephone or adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk.
- Breakfast and after school clubs will start on Monday 8 March and continue as prior to lockdown. Drop off and collection continues to be from the hall door.
- We have two Children's **sports clubs** starting next week. Year R-2 will be on Friday 3:30pm-4:30pm and Years 3-6 on Wednesdays 3:30-4:30pm. Please email the school office if you would like your child to take part.
- All peripatetic **music lessons** will return to being face to face from the week beginning Monday 8 March.

There has been another change to the drop off and collection times, which are as follows:

Drop off: A-H: 8:45am-8:55am I-Z: 8:55am-9:05am

Collection: A-H: 3:10pm-3:20pm I-Z: 3:20pm-3:30pm

It is very important that you keep to the allocated times to reduce the number of adults on the school site at any one time.

Lateral Flow Tests for parents of school age children

As stated last week in our school newsletter, staff and volunteers are completing the Covid-19 lateral flow tests twice each week, even if they have had the vaccination. I understand from the press that parents of school age children are also now able to obtain the lateral flow tests for home use. Further information can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Kind regards and many thanks for your continued support,

Kirstie Baines

Kirstie Baines
Headteacher