

Headteacher

John Galvin

Petworth C of E Primary School

South Grove, Petworth,
West Sussex, GU28 0EE

Tel: 01798 342369

Fax: 01798 343195

E-mail: office@petworth.w-sussex.sch.uk

Website: www.petworth.w-sussex.sch.uk



15 July 2021

Dear Parents,

Autumn Term

From September 2021 we hope that our school will be back to pre-Covid restrictions and that we do not have to wear masks, stay in 'bubbles' and that school life can return to a measure of normality. However, I am mindful of the whole school community's safety and will take any further precautions to minimise the risk to all of the children and adults.

I am grateful for the feedback from our May Parent Survey and I have taken this information on board as we plan for the coming academic year. There have been certain aspects from working under Covid restrictions we would like to continue, as we have found that they benefit the children.

Therefore, from September on the days the children in year one to year six have P.E., we would like them to attend school in their P.E. kit and their school jumper. We are in the process of getting some school sport jumpers/track suit top, which can be ordered from September from the school office if you wish. The children can also wear either black or dark blue tracksuit bottoms as part of their kit in the colder weather. Coming to school in their P.E. kit enables us to have 100% of children participating in P.E. lessons, as well as not losing time, while the children get changed, allowing more time spent on their learning. If a child does not wear the correct colour P.E. kit we will ask them to change.

We would like to continue with children arriving and leaving school at the separate gates. For Early Years and Key Stage One children we would like them to arrive via the Key Stage One entrance from 8.30am, when the gate will open. The children will then be allowed to go into class immediately with only Oak class parents being allowed into the classroom. The gate will be locked at 8.45am, as this is when registration will take place.

Key Stage Two children will arrive via the Herbert Shiner car park from 8.30am when the gate will open. The children will be allowed to play on the playground until 8.40am when the whistle will go and the children will line up ready to enter the school. This gate will be locked at 8.45am, as this is when registration will take place.

We will be introducing swimming for Beech, Maple and Elm classes. Each class will go swimming on a Friday morning for ten weeks. Elm class will start their lessons on Friday 17th September. We will be subsidising the cost, however we will need to ask for a donation of £3 per child per week. More details will be sent out at the start of the next academic year.

Our homework will continue to be a mix of online learning e.g. Times Tables Rockstars, Teams activities and Spelling Shed, and paper based activities e.g. comprehension tasks and curriculum subject activities.

As a school, we want to create an environment where children love to read. This can be accomplished by incorporating the latest research, children re-reading stories to deepen the children's familiarity with a story and increase their emotional engagement. It will also allow children to repeatedly hear new vocabulary and commit these to their long-term memory, which works parallel with our retrieval practice initiative in school. All of the research states that reading for pleasure is associated with higher levels of literacy development. Therefore, we will be asking that every child reads at home for twenty minutes, at least three times a week, which will benefit your child hugely.

By working together, our children will reach their full potential. We will continue to offer a broad and balanced curriculum for your children, with a mix of learning in real life scenarios, hands on experiences and developing their awareness of the whole world around them.

I am really looking forward to our next academic year as we already have so many exciting class and whole school activities planned, ranging from our geography and history focused Petworth Week, hundred-year anniversary of finding Tutankhamun's tomb, Parliament Week and much, much more. However, come Friday 23rd July I will be ready to not jump every time my phone goes off with the worry of a child, parent or member of staff telling me they have to isolate.

Thank you for all of your support, discussions and smiles over the last year. Please have an amazing summer holiday and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J Galvin', written in a cursive style.

John Galvin
Headteacher