

Ilketshall Newsletter

September 2020

Welcome Back!

What a difference!!

It has been lovely to see all the happy, smiling faces of the children over the last couple of days and it is great to have them all back - we have really missed them and it has been quite a shock to see how much they have all grown!

As I am sure you are aware, school is looking very different at the moment and classrooms have been set up in accordance with DFE guidance in order to keep the children and staff as safe as we possibly can. There have been changes to playtime, lunchtime and toilet arrangements to minimise contact between bubbles. I am really impressed by how quickly our children have started to pick up the new routines and thank you for your support at the start and end of the day, it has certainly seemed to work really well so far.

Family Assembly and Hot Chocolate Friday

Assemblies will not take place in the usual way at the moment, but we will continue to celebrate our achievements through the week, just in a slightly different way. This also includes Hot Chocolate Friday - we won't be able to do this together as we have in the past but we will still celebrate this. From next week, on a Friday our 'Hot chocolate children' will come home with their hot chocolate to celebrate with you. Please take a photo and add it to Seesaw.

Butterflies of Britain

We are thrilled to announce that this year we will be working with Butterflies of Britain. Butterflies of Britain are providers of high quality nature connection, forest school and project based learning using the curiosity approach. Each class will have weekly sessions in our woods where they will have the opportunities to do a variety of both project based learning, wild play, den building and forest skills. This session will take place every Thursday so on that day we would ask that you send your children into school with appropriate outdoor clothing, jumpers, waterproof jackets, old trousers and wellies if possible or a change of shoes. As far as possible, this session will take place whatever the weather! All sessions will be organised in line with current DFE guidance for schools.

PE

All children will need come into school in their PE Kits on a Tuesday for PE with Mr Sanders. As far as possible, PE will take place outside and so please send your children in dressed appropriately. The class teacher will let you know if there are any other occasions when PE clothing is required.

Spare Shoes

It would be really useful if your child has a pair of spare shoes in school as we plan to use the field for much more of the year to allow us to stay in our bubbles. Wellies or a pair of old trainers in a named bag would be a perfect option as they could then be used for BoB on Thursday. On that note, I still have a huge pile of trainers that were left in school when we went into lockdown. If you know that your child is missing a pair and would like them back please let me know and we will endeavour to locate them for you. We also have lots of water bottles!

Tissues

We are currently unable to keep boxes of tissues in the classroom for the children to use. Could I ask that you please send your child with one of the little packets of tissues for their own use that they can keep on the desk.

Reading books

These will continue to come home but when your child has finished with the book we need to 'quarantine' it until the next week. There are quarantine bins by the bookshelf outside each classroom for this purpose. The library is currently out of use.

Parent Mail

Parent mail is currently causing us a few issues, Mr Harvey has spent several hours trying to get it functioning effectively. Please be patient, it will get sorted.

I am sure there will be lots more information to share with you over the next few days and we will put this all on Seesaw and on the App. In the meantime, have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Winter