



Halebank C of E Primary School
Heathview Road
WIDNES
Cheshire
WA8 8UZ



Headteacher: Mr R Harley

Telephone number: 0151 425 5798

Friday, 12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome Back!

While it might be two months later than we were expecting, the spring term is now officially under way. We are delighted that school has finally re-opened and I'm sure you feel the same! The last few months have been challenging for everyone and it has been such a pleasure to have all the children back with us in school. To hear the classrooms full of the sounds of chatting and learning and to see the children back out on the playground playing and laughing with one another has been wonderful!

Settling In

In these first few days, the staff have provided a number of settling in activities and opportunities for the children to mix socially to help to them to acclimatise and adjust. Staff have also been establishing routines and helping the children get used to the rhythm of the school day. Alongside this, the staff have been making careful observations of the children at work and play; this will help us to plan ahead for what the children will need in the coming weeks in terms of their social and emotional development, their physical and mental health and wellbeing, and their learning. The children are showing us that they have continued to learn while they have been away from school, so thank you for all you have done to support your child at home during the partial school closure.

However, it is important to stress that there **will** be some ups and downs in the next few weeks and the children are still adjusting to being around lots of other people again. Friendships will need time to grow, while energy and levels of enthusiasm will fluctuate from day to day. We will be giving the children the space they need to get used to the changes going on in their lives and I know you will be doing the same at home.

Staggered Start and Finish Times

You will be aware that we have established some new routines for the start and end of the school day. I think we have worked really well together to get these new systems up and running; I thank you for your patience as we have all been finding out what works and what needs tweaking. The majority of parents and carers are sticking to their drop off and pick up times. Here's a reminder of the slots that you have been given:

Groups	Pupils	Drop Off	Pick Up
Group 1	Pupils with surnames A-E	8.40 am	3.00 pm
Group 2	Pupils with surnames F-K	8.45 am	3.05 pm
Group 3	Pupils with surnames L-R	8.50 am	3.10 pm
Group 4	Pupils with surnames S-Z	8.55 am	3.15 pm

Please do not be offended if the staff remind you about your times, particularly if you are still arriving early. In order for the arrangements to work for our school, we need a steady flow of families coming on and off the site at their set times. The timeslots have been carefully organised to keep you all as spread out as possible. Should your child walk to/from school without you, we still need the times to be observed. Thank you for your cooperation.

The school's usual routines for entering the grounds should also be adhered to:

- ✓ wear a face covering
- ✓ only **one** adult collecting
- ✓ observe 2 metre social distancing
- ✓ enter/leave the site as quickly as possible

While many schools have now re-opened, it is worth mentioning that the [national lockdown](#) remains in place and the re-opening of schools is just one element of the first stage of the government's easing of restrictions. There should still be no household mixing indoors or outdoors unless this is part of a childcare or support bubble. If you are unsure about this, please click [here](#) to read the latest guidance.



STARS OF THE WEEK



Reception	Darcie-Rae: for settling back into school really well and for always trying her best
Year 1	Lyla: for always trying her best!
Year 2	Layton: for having a fantastic attitude towards his learning and for working independently
Year 3	Amelia: for being an all-round superstar!
Year 4	Abbie: for being a fantastic friend and helping others
Year 5	Lucie: for being the bravest and most determined learner we have ever seen 😊😊!
Year 6	Freya: for enthusiastic and confident learning



READING CHAMPIONS



Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Isabella G	Molly	Coby	Arthur

Contact with Staff

Due to social distancing measures, staff are required to limit the contact they have with you at the start and end of the school day. If you need to talk in detail, please email or phone the school office to arrange a telephone consultation. Similarly, face to face contact with Mrs Fenlon and Mrs Boon in the office should be avoided wherever possible. If you need to talk to a member of the office team, please either telephone or email: sec.halebank@halton.gov.uk. We would ask for your support with these measures by ensuring that the amount of time you spend on the school grounds is kept to an absolute minimum and that you do not enter the school building unless you have made an appointment. Thanks for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Richard Harley

Mr R Harley