



Welcome Back!

We are really pleased to hear that all children will be able to return to school on **Monday 8th March**. Attendance is compulsory for all children from this date. We are very much looking forward to welcoming them back and we hope your child is looking forward to seeing their friends and teachers again too.

Worries

It would also be really normal for you or your child to have some mixed feelings or even worries about returning to school. If you think they may find coming back to school hard, please get in contact with us and we can support you in this process.

Curriculum

As we will have just under four weeks before the Easter holidays, our plan is to spend this time re-establishing routines, friendships and independence. We will have a heavy focus on PHSE (PSED in Reception) and will ensure the children in all year groups have time to play with class friends and be physically active; which are both so crucial for their mental health and wellbeing.

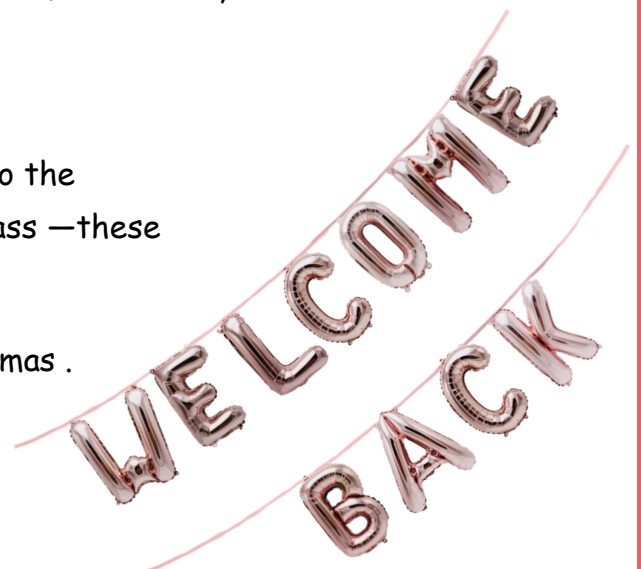
We will also be concentrating on the priority areas of phonics, reading, writing, maths and vocabulary as we find out what each child can do independently and see if they have any gaps in their knowledge and skills. Once we return after Easter, we will resume our broad and balanced curriculum in full.

Arrangements

There have been a couple of minor amendments to the staggered drop off and pick up times for each class –these are on the following page.

Drop off locations are the same as before Christmas .

Please arrive **at your child's designated time, not beforehand**, so that you are not waiting on the school site.



Class	Teacher	Teaching Assistant	Lunchtime Supervisor	Drop off time	Pick up time
RR	Mr Sherlaw	Mrs Smart (M/Tu) Mrs Eggington (W/Th/F)	Mrs Woodward (M/Tu) Mrs Grall (W/Th/F)	8.50	3.05
RY	Mrs Meara (M/Tu/F) Mrs Cole (M/W/Th)	Mrs Hankin (M/Tu/W/F) Mrs Smart (Th)	Miss Collins	8.45	3.00
RB	Miss Wiles	Mrs May (M/Tu/Thu/F) Mrs Smart (W)	Mrs Cross	8.55	3.10
1R	Mrs McFall (M/T/W) Mrs Gough (Th/F)	Mrs Dickeson (M/W)	Mr Sumner	8.45	3.10
1Y	Mrs Tellam (M/Tu/W) Mr Staines (Th/F)	Mrs Bishop (M/F) Mr Mughal (Tu/W/Th)	Mrs Harfield	8.50	3.15
1B	Mrs Rumboldt	Mrs Wells	Miss Landucci	8.45	3.10
2R	Miss Lawler	Mrs Bishop (W/Th)	Mrs Westwood	8.45	3.10
2Y	Mrs Sharp	Mrs Perry (M/Tu/W/Th) Mrs Rahman (F)	Mrs Smith	8.50	3.15
2B	Mrs Hegarty	Mrs Dickeson (Th/F)	Mrs Jones	8.50	3.15

Please remember to arrive at school **AT** your designated times so we do not have groups of parents waiting on the school site.

Safety

To keep everyone safe please follow our **one way system**, maintain strict **social distancing** and anyone aged over 12 **wear a mask** on the school site unless exempt. Adults should **see their child onto the playground**, rather than wait at the gates as we cannot have groups of people gathering in one place.

A copy of the full risk assessment is available on the school website or by request from the school office.

DO NOT send your child to school if they have been asked to isolate by test and trace or if they or anyone in your household, support or childcare bubble have any of the symptoms of Covid-19. These are:

- **A high temperature**
- **A new continuous cough**
- **A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**

You should book a Covid test online or by calling 119 and keep all close contacts isolated until the results are negative or 10 days have passed from the first symptoms.

Wraparound Club

Breakfast and After School Clubs will be operating with their normal times from 8th March when all children return to school.

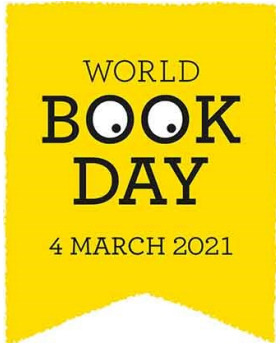
We have been asked to remind parents that they should only use wraparound provision at this time if it is reasonably necessary for you to work, seek work, undertake education or training, attend a medical appointment or address a medical need or a support group.

We will be contacting parents to see if your requirements for a place have changed.

We would also remind you to only use one out of school childcare setting as far as possible. There is guidance for parents here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-of-children-attending-out-of-school-settings-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>





To celebrate World Book Day next week we have a theme of
"The Masked Reader"

Rather than spend money on a costume this year or give parents a big job to make something complicated, we are asking children at home and in school to create a simple mask to represent their favourite book.

This could be using paper or cardboard from an old cereal box; and could be decorated with pens or have things glued on. It could be a mask of their favourite character, or have scenes or the cover from their favourite story. Children in school can wear their mask to school with their normal school uniform on World Book Day: **Thursday 4th March.**

We also have a little competition for all children: some of the school staff will be wearing a mask to share their favourite books. We will be releasing a video on Monday 1st March of our masked readers and asking children to guess which grown up is behind each mask. There will be an answer sheet which can be sent into school or uploaded to your child's file by the end of the day on Wednesday.

On World Book Day the videos of the readers being "un-masked" and reading their stories will be streamed live on Teams on the Worship channel throughout the day. Children in the classrooms will be watching too. All correctly answered sheets will be entered into a draw for a £10 book token!

There will be no other live teaching sessions on this day as we want you to spend the day really enjoying lots of books. We would love to see a photo of your child reading their favourite book in their mask uploaded to their file on BGFL 365 or posted to the school Facebook page. There will be **optional** book related activities uploaded to the shared files if you wish your child to complete some paper based work on that day.



Finding it Tough?

If you are finding lockdown hard, for whatever reason, please know that you are not alone, and that we are here to help. Mrs McFall is available in school most days if you feel like you need some help or just to offload your worries; so please get in touch!

Birmingham Council have paid for a parenting course (normally £88) for any families in Birmingham to access. A flyer is attached, or you can go to www.inourplace.co.uk and enter the 'access code' **COMMUNITY**



Parents' Evening

We are very excited to be using **School Cloud**, a web based booking and video call system for our parents' evenings next week.



We are sorry for the confusion there has been around our arrangements, —unfortunately, the initial set up from school has been a little longer winded than we were led to believe! Now that it is completed, we hope **School Cloud** will make holding our virtual parents evening really simple for you to use.

As we would like to give you a chance to talk to your child's teacher before the children return to school, all Parent's evening appointments will be next week.

You can book your appointment by going to the website <https://stlrnci.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

There is a how to video to help with what to do: <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

Goodbye Mrs Tellam



We will be saying a sad "goodbye" to Mrs Tellam at the end of this term as she leaves to enjoy a change in career pace. Mrs Tellam has been a teacher here for seven years and has worked tirelessly to promote the importance of PHSE in the curriculum. We wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

Class 1Y will be taught by Mrs Town, who covered the class before Christmas, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; and will continue to be taught by Mr Staines on Thursdays and Fridays.

Feedback from our Remote Learning Surveys

Thank you to all the parents and children who completed our remote learning questionnaire.

The results showed that most (over 80%) of both parents and children reported enjoying the online sessions. Most parents and children felt we are providing the right amount of work, with a few families feeling they would like more work and a few preferring less.

Feedback continued:

4. The amount of work I get is:

[More Details](#)

● Too much	13
● Just right	46
● Too little	9



6. The amount of work my child gets is:

[More Details](#)

● Much too much	0
● Too much	2
● Just right	17
● Too little	5
● Much too little	0



Lots of parents (88%) said there was a good balance between interactive lessons and time to complete independent work. You said your children really valued the feedback from teachers on their uploaded work, and felt the weekly plans, when we included them, helped you to organise teaching at home.

The addition of being able to collect reading books from school has been appreciated by lots of you. There were also some lovely comments about individual teachers that have made online learning engaging, and these have been shared with those staff members.

Children said they enjoyed live lessons and independent tasks (both 4 stars) and they knew how to get help if they were stuck (97%).

Their favourite things were seeing their friends, hearing stories, joining in the lessons and using JiT.

To make it better we could have more PE, art and games.

2. I enjoy the live lessons at home.

[More Details](#)

67

Responses



3.96 Average Rating

3. I enjoy the work I'm doing at home.

[More Details](#)

67

Responses



3.87 Average Rating

Feedback continued:

You felt we could be better at providing PE sessions, as some of the YouTube videos did not suit some children, and we responded to this by asking our sports coach, Chris, to record some more specific activities for children to do.

You also asked to ensure that all work was uploaded by Friday for the following week and a few parents felt there could be a bit more challenge provided in the uploaded activities. We are working on improving these areas.

A few of you expressed frustration with internet speeds and when technology fails—we find these difficulties just as frustrating as you do! We cannot always use slideshow to share PowerPoints as this sometimes seems to crash the system. We cannot offer more sessions or smaller groups because, due to our high levels of keyworker children in school, we already have every staff member in school working their full hours.

Staying Safe Online

A small number of parents (17%) and children themselves (10%); felt they didn't know how to stay safe online. At this age what we would expect children to know, is that they should be supervised when online, or at the very least check in with an adult before visiting new sites; they should know to tell an adult if something online worries them; and know that they should act online as they would in real life—by not talking to strangers, by being kind to their friends and by thinking about whether something is real or not. We will remind children of these safety messages again next week.

There are some links around supporting children to be safe online; which will be sent in a separate email if you would like more information. In particular, the NSPCC website is very useful as it has parents' guides for various apps and online games to give you more information so that you can decide whether you will let your child use them.

There is also an app called SafeToNet which is designed to help you safeguard your child from online threats. If your child has their own device and you allow them to use it for messaging others and online games, you may find the app useful. The code "SAFE" will give you free access to the app which has wellbeing activities and adds a safeguarding keyboard to your child's device. <https://safetonet.com/en-gb/landing-pages/covid/>



New Activity Equipment



If you follow our social media accounts or your child has been in school, you might know all about our lovely new **activity equipment** which was installed over half term in the lower playground.

Last year, the children told us what sorts of things they wanted in the playground and the **School Council** helped decide on what was purchased.

The equipment has been funded in part by a contribution from the **PTA** so thank you for all of your donations to PTA events—it helps us to afford luxuries like this!

We hope the equipment will offer something to challenge all of our pupils and help promote gross motor skills, physical fitness and lots of imaginative play.

Teachers will be taking children in small groups to teach them how to use the equipment safely and will be cleaned between groups to reduce the risk of any covid-19 transmission. We will ensure that all bubbles have a fair chance to play on the equipment.

The equipment should **not be used by children before or after school** as we do not want to encourage children to mix bubbles or linger on the school site.



EU Settlement Scheme

The Home Office has asked us to remind families that if you are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, you and your family members may be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

Children require their own immigration status and are not covered by parents application to the EUSS so you will need to make an application on their behalf.

Applications are free and can be made online on at <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

The application deadline in order to continue living and working in the UK is 30th June 2021. If you need help with the application process, there is phone support on 0300 123 7379.