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Dear Parent/ Carer

I have received several queries today regarding lunchtimes and thought I would send this letter to clarify the new routines.

LunchTimes

Under the *Government Guidance* I have to stagger the lunchtimes of the seven classes. The reception class has their own outdoor area to play in and we are fortunate to have two playgrounds that we can use, which enables the organisation of two classes at a time to be outside; as they each have an area where they can be a safe distance away from the other bubble.

In the school's response to the new guidelines, lunchtime now spans from 11.30 - 1.30, to ensure that all bubbles have an allocated time outside, as this is an important part of lunchtime. I have increased the lunch hour for each class from 50 minutes to 1 hour, to enable these routines to work effectively.

Some classes eat first and then go outside and some classes go outside first and then eat. This ensures the playground is timetabled. We do allocate the first 15 minutes for eating, however this is extended if the MDSA for the classroom can see that the children need longer. By extending this time it does mean that the children have less time outside, as the playground has to be cleared for the next classes allocated time and then for P.E., once the afternoon session of learning starts for classes. The children have 30 minutes outside each day, at lunch time.

The children then return into the classroom for the remaining 15 minutes of lunch time. This time is spent on an activity such as colouring or reading and each child needs to wash their hands before the start of their afternoon session. Further into the term, this can also be used for individual children to finish a piece of work that was not completed within learning time.

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Reg Office: As above
Company Reg No. 07807811

The children are then ready to begin their learning again for the afternoon session.

If due to the weather, the children cannot play outside, then we will provide a film for the children to watch as a social event/ break form learning.

The organisation of the lunchtimes in this way needs to remain under current guidelines. The reopening plans, which included the staggered breaks and lunchtimes had been submitted and verified by DBAT in July.

I have also received a few queries regarding what constitutes a healthy lunch. NHS guidance for a balanced lunchbox is.

- Starch foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta.
- Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans
- A dairy item, like cheese or yoghurt.
- Vegetables or salad and a pportion of fruit

Juice can be supplied at lunchtimes but please only water in their bottles that they use throughout the day. This benefits of water and hydration whilst learning is based on medical research.

Homework

We are settling the children back into school initially and won't be setting homework this week. When Homework is set it will be through Microsoft Teams. We will be teaching the children how to use this system. This will also ensure that if we do have to return to remote learning, this platform can then be used by the children to access learning provided. I will confirm with parents nearer the time when we intend to restart setting homework.

Reading Books

KS1

When children start to bring reading books home again these will be given out on a Friday and returned by Tuesday. The books will then need to quarantine before going out again on Friday, as they will be going between households.

KS2

The classes have their own reading library and the reading books will be managed through the class bubble. Once each book is completed and returned, it will be quarantined before returning to the shelves.

Yours Sincerely
Mrs Warburton