



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we finally reach the end of our first term, the start of the school year in September seems a world away. The impact of Coronavirus has affected every aspect of school and my thanks to staff, pupils and parents for your patience as we have adjusted to this new way of school life.

We continue to review our policies and the procedures we have in place to ensure that we minimise the risks of COVID transmission in our community. It is for this reason that we have made changes to our drop off and collection routines to help maintain social distancing and keep to the staggered timings and ask that parents, carers and visitors wear a face covering whenever they come onto school grounds. I am aware that some people are exempt from wearing masks or face coverings, but please do not be offended if staff speak to you .

I have been extremely proud to see just how quickly children have adapted to the changes in school and how much progress they have already made in their learning. I hope you've been hearing about our wonderful new Maths Meetings and if you haven't already, please sign up to Marvellous Me to get regular updates about what is happening inside the classroom and to share in your children's success. We are aware that the time may arise when groups of children are not able to attend school and we have been further developing our remote learning package. We have a number of programmes that will support learning at home, look out for log-in details to MyOn, Spelling Shed and Times Table Rockstars and if you haven't had them, please speak to class teachers. Class teachers have already been recording lessons and have completed the first round of remote parents evenings.

I think we're all ready for a well earned break. I hope you enjoy half-term and stay safe and well.  
Best wishes,

**Mr D Bailey**  
Head of School

### From the School Office

#### Collection Arrangements

Just a reminder if collection arrangements for your child change (e.g. someone else is collecting them) please ensure that you inform your child's class teacher or the school office in plenty of time.

Messages should be given by 11am, unless in the case of a real emergency.

#### Absence Line

When telephoning the school to inform us of your child's absence please choose the Attendance Line option and leave a message with as much information of your child's symptoms as possible.

#### Arriving at School

Please can we remind parents not to arrive at school until your child's allocated time and please adhere to social distancing outside the school.

#### Coming onto the School Site

We are asking all parents, carers and visitors to wear a face covering when they are come onto the school grounds unless they are exempt from doing so.



## Chartwells Catering

Chartwells Catering is the new provider of our school meals. School meals are £2.00 per day and payable on Parent Pay. Payment **must** be made in advance of the meal being taken.

## Parent Pay

We are now a Cashless School.

PE T-Shirts, School Trips, School Meals and Breakfast Club **MUST** be paid for online through the Parent Pay System.

The only items excluded from this are charitable contributions. If you have not yet activated your account please do so.

## Communication & Remote Learning

A full guide to remote learning will be released next term. Until then, here's a quick look at some of the important bits that we use

### Marvellous Me



Thank you to all those parents and carers who have already signed up to Marvellous Me. I hope you are finding it a useful tool to help you talk about your children's learning and success. We currently have 75% of parents signed up.

### Google Classroom

We are in the fortunate position of having a Chromebook for every child from year 3 to 6 and this platform will form an integral part of any remote learning we may deliver in the future. All children will have details of how to access Google Classroom sent home and uploaded onto Marvellous Me, to avoid lost passwords!



Google Classroom

### myON & Accelerated Reader



Our most recent addition to our remote learning package, myON gives you access to over 5,000 books online. Teachers provide a list of suggested books and you can choose your own. Some children will also benefit from having myON read the book to them, highlighting the text as it is read aloud. In under a week, we've already had Key Stage 2 children access over 100 hours.

## Diary Dates

*Monday 2nd November* - Term 2 Starts

Year 6 parents - deadline for online completion of Secondary Admissions form.

*Wednesday 11th November* - 2 minute Silence & Remembrance Day Assembly

*Monday 16th November* - Anti-bullying Week 2020 - United Against Bullying

*Saturday 21st November* - Open Day School Tours for prospective parents

*Thursday 26th November* - Open Evening School Tours for prospective parents

*Monday 7th December* - Open Evening School Tours for prospective parents

*Friday 11th December* - Supporting Christmas Jumper Day

*Wednesday 16th December* - Christmas Lunch

*Friday 18th December* - Term 2 ends

**2021**

*Monday 4th January* - Term 3 begins

## Other Notices

### Food Allergies - 'Keep Newlands NUT free!'

We do have several children who have severe nut allergies so we politely ask that you do not send your child in with a packed lunch containing nuts or items made from nuts e.g. Nutella chocolate spread and Peanut Butter.



## Parents' Evenings

This term we have offered telephone appointments or live-chats using Google Meet.

If you haven't had an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher, please let the office know. We will ensure these are arranged for the start of next term.



Visit us online at [www.newlands-tkat.org](http://www.newlands-tkat.org)

