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Headteacher: Brett Stevenson

## JULY UPDATE

Dear Parents,

As we near the end of this summer term, I would like to thank you for all of the support that you have given the school this academic year. It certainly has been a difficult year for everyone, and I hope that the measures that we have put in place, especially since March, have contributed to your child or children from enjoying school as best they can. The children have been making progress academically, although the restrictions upon teaching have meant that things have inevitably been different.

As a Headteacher my first duty is the safety of all of the people upon our site. I have no idea how the Government guidelines will affect us in September, or where things stand with how we as a country face having to push back against the pandemic. As a school we will remain cautious, but with a keen eye to return to as normal school day or experience as possible. This will of course depend on other factors, as I have mentioned, but I would like to ask you for your continued support as we approach the new term.

### Teaching Arrangements for September

The classes for September will look like this:

Little Fledglings	Pre-school	Mrs Evans (supported by Ms Blakely and Mrs Wilson)
Cygnets	Reception/ Y1/ Y2	Mrs Evans (supported by Ms Blakely and Mrs Wilson)
Swans	Y3/ Y4/ Y5/ Y6	Mr Tuffley and Miss Freedman (supported by Mrs Davies and Ms Shopland)

### Start Times and Finish Times

Since September 2020, we have operated a 'staggered' start and finish times for the pupils.

As of today, I still haven't heard what the 'relaxations' in September will actually look like. I sincerely hope that any such relaxations are irreversible, but I read today that the Government have indicated that some measures may still be in place.

In addition, although having the children start at different times according to their class can pose some problems, we have found that the children have benefited from this approach. We have found that some of the measures that we have in place regarding social distancing have had a

positive effect with behaviour, especially at playtime, when we can maximise the space for children to play in.

Many of you have reported that to us that parking and road safety at the start and end of the day has been greatly improved with our staggered timings. This is something I am obviously very keen to maintain as we plan ahead.

Class	Start Time	Finish Time
Preschool	9.00am	1.00/3.00pm
Cygnets	08.50am	3.00pm
Swans	08.40am	3.15pm

If you have children who have different timings, they will both need to start at the earlier time (08.40) and both will finish at the later time (3.15). This is in order to safeguard losing any more learning time.

### **Punctuality**

I know that things are sometimes hectic in the morning, but in order for the day to start successfully it is very important that your child arrives at school on time. It all counts towards a calm start, whilst being a social event for the children. It is very important that we maximise their learning time too, going forward.

### **PE Kit**

From September the children will need their full school uniform to be worn each day, except for the days that they have PE. On those particular days they may wear their PE kit. This is similar to the current arrangements.

However, I would like to re-emphasise the need for PE Kit requirements. We wish the PE kit that is worn to be comfortable and practical. We would appreciate if football or basketball kit is not worn, however tempting. We would like this PE kit to be applied consistently throughout the school year, and across all the year groups.

T-shirts need to be **white**.

Shorts, jogging bottoms and hoodies should be **navy blue** or **black**.

On the days that your child wears their PE kit, their footwear should be **trainers**

### **School Uniform**

On the whole our pupils look very smart in their school uniform. It is therefore a little disappointing when children are sent into school with the wrong uniform, for whatever reason. School uniform can be ordered through a link on our website but also found here

<https://myclothing.com/uniform/27239.school>

Preschool uniform can be bought here too. This is a royal blue sweatshirt.

<https://myclothing.com/pre-school-uniform/27240.school>

## Teacher Emails

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the email addresses that you should be using to communicate with our staff.

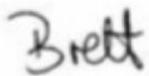
Mrs Evans                    [Mrsevens@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Mrsevens@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk)  
Mr Tuffley                    [Mrtuffley@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Mrtuffley@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk)  
Miss Freedman              [Missfreedman@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:Missfreedman@walmorehill.gloucs.sch.uk)

## And finally....

At school we appreciate the disruption that families have had over the last 18 months or so. Many of the staff have had to deal with their own children having their schooling disrupted. I sincerely hope that the measures that are now in place will not have to be changed. However, unfortunately things sometimes **do** have to change, and sometimes with short notice. I know that you will understand that this sort of decision would not be taken lightly. Thankfully this sort of occurrence happens very rarely.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I hope to catch up with more of you in September, but in the meantime have a lovely summer with your children.

Take care,



Brett Stevenson  
Headteacher

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021