Dear parents,

This letter contains the initial information about our reopening in September. For years 1 – 6, the first day of term will be Monday 7th September, Year R will receive their transition dates separately to this letter. Under the new guidance, it is expected that all children will return to school in September, and we are very much looking forward to having our lovely school community back together again. I know that for some parents this may cause some anxiety and this is understandable. We will continue to put the health and safety of everyone in the school first, but hope to balance that with some sense of normality for the children. We have made a few changes to the way the school is run so that we are able to provide a high quality, fun and engaging curriculum for the children, whilst keeping high levels of health and hygiene.

**Class structure**

We are welcoming more children to our school community next year and I know they will settle in well to become part of our lovely school.

Next year the class structure will be as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Year groups | Teacher (s) |
| Aire | Reception and year 1 | Mrs Hawkins & Mrs Hulse |
| Brisons | Year 2 | Mrs Smith & Miss Clackworthy |
| Longships | Year 3 & 4 | Miss Sawle |
| Cowloe | Year 5 & 6 | Mrs Tindall |

Brisons and Longships will be together in the afternoons but will still have their own spaces to work (they will be working on the same topic). The smaller room that is currently Longships’ classroom will be Brisons’ and the current Brisons’ classroom will be Longships.

As part of the guidance, we have been advised to split our children into ‘bubbles’, these will essentially be our classes (Brisons and Longships will be one bubble).

We are very lucky to have Miss Clackworthy joining our teaching team this year as she completes her teaching apprenticeship. She will be teaching alongside myself and Miss Sawle in the Brisons and Longships’ bubble and will take increasing responsibility for Brisons’ class.

We have our wonderful group of Teaching Assistants who will be added to this class structure before the end of term.

**The curriculum**

As we come back, we will be dedicating a lot of our time towards a ‘recovery curriculum’ which will help us to regain our school ethos, support the children in dealing with the challenges of the past 6 months; and finding out exactly where the children are academically, socially and developmentally. We have a wonderful curriculum at Sennen and we know the children will love getting stuck into the new learning that we have planned. We will run our timetable in much the same way as before, with core subjects being taught each day and then our creative topic curriculum in the afternoons.

**Playtimes**

Playtimes will be staggered and spread out between our various outdoor spaces. Each ‘bubble’ will have a set of playground equipment to share and the adventure playground will be timetabled with a different bubble using it each day. It will be cleaned at the end of each day ready for the next group. Children can bring a healthy snack to have at playtime.

**Coming into school**

Children will use lockers this year to keep their possessions in which enable us to reduce the risk of cross-contamination. We will be opening the doors from 8.40 each morning and closing them at 9.00. The children will be asked to put their things in their lockers and wash their hands. They can then come straight into the classroom and do some morning work, which will be set by the teacher. By doing this we are ensuring that all children will have enough space to arrive to school in a socially distanced way and avoid crowds. We will have different entry points for each class as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class | Entry point |
| Aire | Aire fire door in the adventure playground |
| Brisons | Main entrance  |
| Longships | Longships fire door (old Brisons door) in main playground |
| Cowloe | Fire door to the left of the main entrance in main playground. |

Children will exit from these doors and parents will be asked to wait in designated spaces. At the moment I am not anticipating a staggered finish but I will review this again before the new term.

We ask that families maintain social distancing as they head through the gates but as we have 4 separate gate exits so it should be enough space.

In order to reduce the number of people coming onto site, we are asking that only one parent drops off and collects please.

**Uniform**

We will be wearing our uniform again from September. To try and reduce the risk of infection, we ask that children have clean clothes as often as possible. Because of this, plus the general expense, we don’t expect the children to always have uniform with the Sennen logo on, the alternatives available from the high street and supermarkets will be fine. If you would like to order uniform direct from the supplier, please go to www.trophy textiles.co.uk and select Sennen School.

**Lunches**

In order to keep the children socially distanced in their groups, we will be eating lunch in our classrooms each day. We have made the decision that we will be providing school packed lunch only (no hot meals) for the first half term and then we can review the situation after that. By doing this, children won’t have to walk around the school carrying their lunch trays. If your child is entitled to a free school meal (either income based or because they are in KS1), we will be using our provider, caterlink, to provide their school packed lunches.

**Equipment**

Children will need to bring in a labelled water bottle each day, which they can keep near them. We will be uncovering the water fountains but only to refill bottles and they will be wiped afterwards.

They can bring a bag / book bag in that will go in their locker along with their coat and PE kit.

Each child will have their own stationary pack that will be kept in their own tray. They will not need any stationary equipment from home.

We will be sending reading books home from September and these books will stay in their class bubbles and not mixed between groups.

**Swimming**

We have made the decision to suspend swimming for first half term and then reassess. Whilst swimming is very important to us a school, we need to be confident that the procedures in place are sufficient enough for us to start up again. Obviously, if things continue to improve, we will reassess the situation.

**Managing illness**

It is vitally important that we work together to manage illness during this time. In September, I will be sending out the latest ‘Stay at home’ and testing guidance so that everyone knows what to do if your child presents with symptoms. It is very important that we have correct, up to date contact details for at least 2 family members so that if a child becomes unwell, we can contact someone quickly and the child can go home. We are also asking that, as a community, we actively engage in the track and trace system to reduce the spread of infection.

I know that there is a lot of information on here, but I wanted to make sure that everyone was as informed as possible. I aim to send out another letter with some reminders on during the first week of September and let you know of any changes that occur over the summer.

I would like to thank you all for your overwhelming support during this time, it has been wonderful to be part of the community and I am looking forward to seeing all of our lovely children again in September. If you have any questions or queries, please e-mail them to head@sennen.cornwall.sch.uk and I will do my best to answer them for you.

Have a great summer,