



Thursday 29th March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to wish you all a very happy Easter holiday; I hope you enjoy quality time with your family and friends.

As you will see from the Hedgelines attached with this Parent Mail, it has been another busy term. It's always wonderful to read this monthly newsletter and celebrate the wide range of activities that children participate in.

As always at the end of a term, here are some updates for parents:

Our new playground

The adults are as excited as the children are about our new playground equipment, with many of you asking when this will be open to the children. As most of you will have seen, the works were completed this week. Although they are completed in terms of installation, the equipment needs to have a full health and safety inspection before it is 'officially' handed over to us. We are organising this. We are also in the process of completing our own school risk assessments, having had the borough Health and Safety Advisor visit us to provide some guidance on Monday of this week. The next step will then be to train staff and children on how to use the equipment safely. This is planned for the first week or two of the new term.

I am sure that you will appreciate that before we allow the children to use the equipment, we must be sure that we have undertaken all of these tasks. It would not be appropriate to simply take down the fence and let children loose!

Please be advised that once open, the children and other non-Barrow Hedges children, in particular pre-schoolers, are not permitted to use this equipment outside of school hours. The playground equipment is to be used within school time when the children are appropriately supervised. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Lunchtimes

You will know from my previous correspondence that one of the school's key priorities is to improve our environment and a second is to ensure that behaviour outside of lessons is as good as it is within classroom learning time.

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HEALTHY SCHOOLS LONDON



Now that the expansion building works and playground equipment have been completed, we are in a position to completely review how lunchtimes run, with a view to ensuring that this time is spent more productively, happily and safely.

The Senior Leadership Team have had several meetings over the past few weeks and have agreed a plan for the first few weeks of the Summer Term. Tasks include reviewing the school's Behaviour Policy, and meeting with the Midday Assistants to create rotas linked to the new zones. Regarding the Behaviour Policy it is our intention to adapt our policy so that there is a different one applicable for lunchtimes, and this will go hand in hand with tailored training for lunchtime supervisors. I will provide further updates on this in the new term.

MUGA

Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us when the MUGA was being installed and this has resulted in the initial surface not 'going off properly' due to the freezing temperatures. Then MUGA is now being completed in the Easter holiday with a scheduled handover during the first week back.

School field and clubs

Our field is currently having necessary maintenance that we have been advised can only be carried out at this time (due to the growing season). Crystal Palace Football Club told the school that they would not be able to run clubs unless we had this work done. Unfortunately this has in turn impacted on the numbers of children that Crystal Palace could offer for its after school club. With the field works being completed in early May, Crystal Palace will then open up the club to its original numbers ready for the second half of the summer term.

School uniform and presentation

Please be reminded to send your child back to school with their PE kit and in the correct school uniform. We are still finding that children are wearing earrings and these are not permitted in school. There is no set date for when children can start wearing summer uniform; the weather should be your guide! We are all hoping that we can pack away our snow boots!

Main entrance

The front driveway at the main entrance to the school from Harbury Road is reserved for senior members of staff and the Admin Team only. In addition to some specific arrangements for those parents and children who use an assigned space, deliveries and Sutton Transport are allowed access, but any parents dropping off and picking up are reminded they should not be driving down to the front entrance. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Morning drop off

Please ensure your children are not dropped at either gate earlier than 8:40 am; they are not supervised before this time. We ask that you arrange for suitable childcare if you have appointments or work commitments prior to the drop off time.

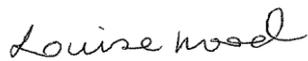
Stationery

It would be much appreciated if when stocking up your child's pencil case for the new term, that you send them back with a glue stick. We would also welcome a box of tissues for the classroom. Many thanks.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

On behalf of all stakeholders I would like to thank Miss Smith for all she has done for the school. I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Smith every happiness for new adventures ahead. Attached with this Parent Mail is a letter from her.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise Wood".

Mrs Louise Wood
Headteacher