

23rd February 2021

Dear Parents,

We are so excited that we are finally able to welcome back all years to school from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We understand it's been a really difficult time for families and are relieved we can finally be together again.

To ensure a smooth transition back for our pupils, we would like to inform you of the following please:

- **Remote home-school learning** - we are continuing with the remote home-school learning timetable until the end of next week. This means all lessons should be attended and work completed.
- Our **Friday closing times** until the end of term are as follows:
  - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February – we finish at 12pm for Purim
  - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March – we finish at 12.30pm to allow us time to prepare the school for everyone's return.
  - Fridays 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March – we will finish at 2.00pm (Reception and KS1) and 2.10pm (Years 3-6).
- During the course of next week, teachers will begin discussing the **return to school** with their classes in their live lessons. Whilst we know that the majority of children will be feeling positive about the return to school, we are mindful that some children may need more time and intervention from us once we are back. We aim to be as sensitive as possible, and also not presume that children are anxious or worried.
- The two weeks back in school will focus on getting the children used to the security and consistency of school. We need you to do your bit and bring them into school on time, with uniform that fits and equipment ready for them to use in the classroom. We are still not able to share resources between everyone.
- **Lunches** – please provide your child with a packed lunch, as normal, in KS2 each day. You may need to provide more food than normal, as children will have been used to snacking more continuously whilst at home. We will send a separate email in due course regarding lunches for Reception and KS1.
- Our regular **'Kiss and Drop'** arrangements will continue at the start of the school day.
- **End of School Dismissal** - Our end of school routine will continue as last term:
  - We remind parents to arrive no earlier than their oldest child's finishing time whether that be 3.30pm, 3.40pm or 3.50pm.
  - Please keep wearing masks on site, as requested previously, and socially distance from each other as well as from the staff!
  - In order to keep the flow of people around the perimeter, please don't try to speak to the staff or each other as this can hold things up. If you need to speak to a member of staff, then please make an appointment via Mrs Goldberg in the school office if you have concerns about your child. We appreciate this seems draconian but is essential to keep everyone moving and safe.
  - If you are running late or think that it's more convenient for you – please don't go the wrong way round our one-way system. It can cause issues and discomfort to our school community, and might seem unimportant as "it's just a one-off" but this can quickly lead to more people following suit. These procedures are there to protect you! Please do allow time for traffic and parking delays, as being late can mean children from different bubbles are inadvertently mixed together and it can also be quite unpleasant waiting in the cold as we are not able to bring the children into the office area.

- We are introducing some **additional Wellbeing Sessions** to our timetable – if your child has a board game they would like to bring to school, please send it with them when they return on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. It will be in quarantine ready to be used in class from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March. This will help the children learn to play together again, to enjoy each other's company and to share in a relaxed, more informal atmosphere.
- **PE** – these lessons will continue to be conducted outside, weather permitting, and therefore we ask that children attend school in their school tracksuits and trainers on 'PE days' please. As this is to ensure they are warm when outside, it will not be sufficient for them to wear shorts and t-shirts instead (although they may wear them 'as well'). If your child doesn't wish to wear a tracksuit, then they should continue to wear their regular uniform with their trainers. Girls do not need to wear skirts or dresses over their tracksuit bottoms. Boys must wear a kippah and tzitzit at all times please.
- There will be no **homework** for these two weeks, however homework will continue in the summer term. We feel the children will be stimulated at school and after such a long absence will be tired after a day away from home.
- **iPads and Laptops** - If we have loaned a device to you during the past term, please bring it back to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Foreign or Domestic Travel** - If you have been away over the past few weeks, either foreign or domestic, please email me on [hayley.gross@morashajps.org.uk](mailto:hayley.gross@morashajps.org.uk) and Mrs Goldberg on [office.administrator@morashajps.org.uk](mailto:office.administrator@morashajps.org.uk) and let us know when you returned home, your quarantine period and the results of any negative tests that you have had.
- **Covid – Positive Tests or Isolations** - If you or any of your household have had Covid, or if your family have had to isolate at any point, again please email the above email addresses so we are informed.
- **Masks** - All staff will now be wearing masks in communal areas, such as corridors or in the hall. Please warn your child if you feel they may be worried or concerned. Some staff, who teach across more than one bubble, may also choose to wear a mask during their time in class.

If you have any concerns about your child returning to school, in the first instance please email your Class Teacher who will arrange a phone call or Zoom session with you to discuss how we can support your child further.

We will in due course inform you of the times and dates of the Pesach Sederim that are happening in the last week of term. A Zoom link will be provided for each class so that parents can share in their children's fun.

We will also be holding Parents' Evenings at the end of April or beginning of May, once we have had the chance to work with your children again in person and assess their progress. Other schools may have had Parents' Evening this term but did not hold them in the Autumn Term in the same way that we did!

Kind regards,

Mrs Gross

Headteacher