



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your support and understanding with our return to school procedures this week. It has been amazing to see how confidently all our children have strolled into their classes, smiling and ready to learn.

School News

You would have seen this week the fenced off area which marks out the new building and an access route from the bottom of our field. **Enviro** – the company constructing the new building will be here next week to start the enabling groundwork. They will be levelling the ground where needed and installing a trackway for their vehicles.

As stated on the proposed plans available to view on our website:

[Shortlanesend School \(eschools.co.uk\)](http://eschools.co.uk)

The construction is a modular design which will mean less traditional building techniques will be needed. One advantage of this design is that the timeframe for building is significantly shorter. Currently we are expecting completion of the building by the middle of January. This date is of course subject to many other factors, not least how the Cornish weather behaves over the next four months. On completion Tamar and Kenwyn Classes will be the first children to move into the new building.

The date of completion will affect the opening of our pre-school facility, which will mostly likely now be Easter 2022. Mrs Holroyd has started to record names of families who wish to express interest in a place. Please contact her if your child will be three years old next Easter or the following September and you wish to be placed on our contact list. We will be issuing more information over the coming weeks concerning this facility.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the current temporary arrangements whilst we await the completion of the building are challenging, however, the new building space will be worth the current upheavals. Thank you for your continued understanding and patience as the building moves forward.

Next week sees the first of our class educational visits with Helford Class experiencing a tree-top adventure day on Thursday. These experiences further enhance the learning opportunities that our immersive curriculum aims to provide. Other visits for other classes are planned for later this term.

Free School Meals:

Did you know that if your child is registered as eligible for free school meals, the school receives a pupil premium payment of £1,345 per year? The school receives this payment whether or not your child has the school dinner. This premium is used by the



school to organise additional opportunities, which directly benefit your child. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

How does it work?

Year 2 and below

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 they can get free school meals as part of the national Universal Free Infant School Meals Scheme.

It is important that if you receive a qualifying benefit you still need to register for free school meals under the eligibility scheme.

Year 3 and above

If your child is under 19 and in full-time education, you may be able to get free school meals for them if you get one of these benefits:

- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Support (IS)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 if you're an asylum seeker
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Children who receive Income Support (IS) or Income Based Jobseekers Allowance in their own right can also get free school meals.

We recommend that all parents who think they may qualify whether in any year apply through the link below:

[Free School Meals \(servelec-synergy.com\)](https://servelec-synergy.com)

Please Note – Parents whose children have now moved into Year 3 now need to pay for ordered school lunches – this can be done through the Parent Pay app.

Arbor App:

New Parents we recommend that you download the Arbor App. This is the simplest way which we can communicate with you and does not incur any charges. Through this you will receive up to date information concerning your child. Please follow this link:

[Arbor App](#)



Covid contact tracing and self-isolation:

The current government guidance for schools (which we are required to follow) states:

From 16 August, adults and children will not be required to self-isolate even if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons"

Children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact **should continue** to attend the setting as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the setting, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.

So, if a pupil with a parent or sibling who has tested positive for COVID and they themselves are well then, they should continue to attend school. The family of the affected person should all have PCR tests as they are close contacts of a positive case however as long as the children are well and non-symptomatic they can continue to come to school whilst awaiting test results.

From 19th July schools were no longer expected or able to undertake contact tracing. Schools will not be asking families to keep their children home to isolate nor asking any member of staff to isolate unless they have Covid symptoms. This is now undertaken completely by NHS Test and Trace.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parents to identify close contacts. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. As parents or carers, you may be contacted to help with identifying close contacts.

Wraparound Care:

A reminder that our wrap around facilities - Early Birds (7:50 – 8:30) and After School Club (3:15-5:15) are both currently running.

It is important for safety ratios and safeguarding that places for After School Club are booked in advance through Parent Pay. We need to know which children are expected; it can also cause uncertainty and anxiety in children if they are unsure whether they are attending.



Parking:

A reminder to parents to park responsibly at drop off and collection times – Please do not park across the pavement as this makes it difficult and more dangerous for parents with prams and pushchairs. Thank you.

Arrangements for Drop Off and Collection:

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Departure Time</u>
Gannel – Mr Easter	8:30-8:40	3:00
Lynher – Miss Eddison	8:30-8:40	3:00
Helford – Mrs Ashley	8:30-8:40	3:00
Fal – Mrs Lewis	8:40 – 8:50	3:10
Kenwyn – Miss Adler	8:40-8:50	3:10
Tamar –Mrs Stanhope – Following a settling period of two weeks.	8:50	3:10

- Staggered drop off and collection times based on class
- 1-way directional system
- An adult will be at the main gate entrance welcoming the children and supporting with the direction of movement.
- **One adult per family** will accompany their child – unfortunately, no parent or carer will be able to enter the building
- **No child or adult should gather on the school site at any time**
- Children will enter their classrooms via their external classroom door and will immediately wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- For collection, the gates will be open at 14:55. Do not to arrive before 14:55 as this would result in congestion
- **Siblings to be dropped off/collected at earliest time**
- To support the safe environment, **parents must adhere to the collection and drop off times**



One way System: The one-way system has been extremely effective in enabling the children to enter and leave their classrooms in a calm way. We have appreciated your co-operation with this during last year and know from your comments that you have found this system efficient too.

Therefore, please continue to enter through the gate near Reception class (as you do currently) to walk around the building, dropping off children at classroom doors.

Uniform

A reminder that we ask for your child to wear a school sweatshirt, cardigan or hoodie as part of our required uniform. These can now be purchased from Key Wear in Truro. The rest of the uniform can be purchased anywhere you wish. This decision is in place to ensure that the cost of uniform is kept low. However, we wish to ensure our uniforms are fully affordable and accessible, therefore, high street alternatives to branded school uniforms are very acceptable.

It is important that you support our school by ensuring your child has the correct uniform. If you do have any issues sourcing or affording the correct uniform, please contact the school for help and support.

School PE Kit

We would like to keep the children coming into school in their PE kit on PE days. This has almost eliminated lost kit and, because children do not need to change, actual PE teaching time is extended.

Children should wear their SCHOOL PE KIT as detailed below. On all other days they should wear their normal school uniform. The Uniform Policy is on the website:

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers for outside activities.
- Choice of **school** hoodie, sweatshirt or cardigan
- No Football kits or brightly coloured clothing

Non Pupil Days/Term Dates 2021-22

We have set our INSET (Non pupil) Days for the next academic year as:

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Friday 18th February 2022

Monday 6th June 2022 – Platinum Jubilee Day

Monday 25th July 2022

Tuesday 26th July 2022



Our Term Dates for 2021-22 are:

Autumn Term:

Tuesday 7th September 2021 – Friday 17th December 2022
(Half-term: 25th – 29th October)

Spring Term:

Wednesday 5th January 2022 – Friday 8th April 2022
(Half-term: 21st – 25th February)

Summer Term:

Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 22nd July 2022 [1:30pm Finish]
(Half-term: 30th May – 6th June – return to school on **Tuesday 7th June**)

Have a relaxing weekend.

Warm Regards

Mr Wilson