



Tankersley St Peter's C.E. (A) Primary
Westwood New Road, Tankersley
Barnsley, South Yorkshire
S75 3DA

T: 01226 742357

www.tankersleypeters.org.uk

"A love of learning developed in a Christian environment"
Diocese of Sheffield | Barnsley MBC

March 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and had a good start to the new half term. The news this week from government has been a welcome relief that all our children will be allowed back to school on Monday 8th March. I know for our parents that this will also be good news as you have needed to juggle your own working circumstances and life at home around home schooling your children.

First of all, I want to thank all of our school community for working in partnership this year. Everyone has been brilliant - parents, staff and children. The journey has not been easy for all and we have had to learn to navigate change after change in unprecedented times. Despite concerns nationally and in the press about the re-opening of schools, the best place for children now is to be back in school so their learning gap does not widen further.

Just as many working adults are worried about not yet being vaccinated, our Tankersley staff in school are too, so I hope that we can continue to work together as a school community to keep everyone safe and well. Compared to some schools in our locality, we have done really well to avoid bubble closures and infection within school. We will continue to follow our school covid risk assessment as we did in the Autumn term. With this in mind, please can I request that parents continue to wear a mask on the school premises and follow our one-way system when dropping off and collecting children from school. Also, as tempting as it will be to catch up with one another, please can parents avoid gathering together to chat (as we are still under lockdown rules) to keep our children and local communities safe. If parents do stop to talk in groups at school or outside school, then staff and other parents may need to remind you to move on. At home time please again remember to social distance 2m from other parents. Parents will not be allowed in the school building, but you can contact school at any time or your child's class teacher through the class virtual email. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in the above as this will help to keep your own family and others safe.

Please see the important practical information below regarding the return to school:-



Beginning and end of the school day

All children will be collected from the yard in the morning by their class teacher or TA at **8.50am**.

Top gate – Westwood New Road – Years 1 to 6

The one way system in place for entering and exiting the school site will still be in place. Parents and children to enter through the top gate and leave school through the double gate (outside the school entrance.) Please arrive at 8.50am but not earlier. For the safety of all, we would appreciate it if parents do not wait outside the school gates on Westwood New Road due to the volume of people arriving and leaving the site. These gates will be locked at 9am promptly. It would be helpful if older children. (Year 5 and Year 6) can enter and exit the site on their own but if parents wish to you can accompany your child. The same procedure applies for collecting your child.

Bottom Gate – New Road – Early years - Nursery and Reception

Early Years (Reception and Nursery) parents and children will continue to enter and exit school through the bottom New Road. Please take care parking your car if you are driving to school as the pavement here is very narrow. For the safety of all, we would appreciate it if parents do not socially gather outside the school gates on New Road due to parents arriving and leaving the site. Mrs Hartley and Mrs Terrell will be there to greet you on the EYFS playground on the green dots. Please collect your child from the same area at the end of the day.

Nursery parents and children – (including any new Nursery starters) please arrive through the New Road gated entrance at 8.40am and follow the path. The nursery staff will be there to greet you outside the Nursery building. Collect your child from the same place at 3.40pm (For those children who are morning only, please collect your child at 11.40am. For afternoon only children, please arrive at 12.40 and collect at 3.40pm.)

Year groups and classes/ Learning

We are acutely aware that some children may have gaps in knowledge and skills due to the impact of the Covid lockdowns and time out of school, so we are planning to address these as part of the learning over the last part of the Spring term and into the Summer term. This year's national SATS test, Phonics Tests and Times table test have been cancelled by the government, but we will be doing our own benchmark assessments in school later this term and end of term summer term assessments.



However, we feel that the most important thing at the moment is ensuring that our children return to school happy, emotionally and mentally ready to learn so we will be doing some additional circle time and welfare work with our children in school.

Classes and contact emails:-

- Nursery - Mrs Terrell
- Reception – Mrs Hartley (school EYFS lead and SENCO)

- Year 1 - Mrs Beevor (Mon – Wed) / Miss Bennison (Thu-Fri)
- Year 2 – Mrs Chadburn (Mon – Wed / Mr Townsend (Thu-Fri)
- Year 3 – Mrs Cooper
- Year 4 – Miss Phillips
- Year 5 – Mrs Swift
- Year 6 – Miss Johnston

virtuallearningnursery@tankersleyp.org.uk – Mrs Terrell

virtuallearningreception@tankersleyp.org.uk – Mrs Hartley

virtuallearningyear1@tankersleyp.org.uk – Mrs Beevor and Miss Bennison

virtuallearningyear2@tankersleyp.org.uk – Mrs Chadburn and Mr Townsend

virtuallearningyear3@tankersleyp.org.uk – Mrs Cooper

virtuallearningyear4@tankersleyp.org.uk – Miss Phillips

virtuallearningyear5@tankersleyp.org.uk – Miss Hamilton

virtuallearningyear6@tankersleyp.org.uk – Miss Johnston

Teachers will also be sending their **class newsletters** out next week so you can find out about the learning, curriculum and news for your child's own class this term.

Word book day next week!

We are celebrating world book day on Thursday 4th March next week and children can dress up as a character from their favourite book. They will be writing a book review as part of their online work - your child has had information about this on Purple Mash.

Parents will also have received an email about our world book day plans.

School uniform

We would like all our children to wear uniform from 8th March so please send your child in their school uniform.

Your child can come in their PE kit on their usual PE days as they did in the Autumn term.

Your child's teacher will let you know when their PE day is on the class

newsletter. Tankersley school uniform and PE kit can be ordered directly via our school website from our provider and delivered directly to your home or you can ask for it to be



delivered to school. Please see our website under 'Uniform' to order.

<https://tankersleypeters.org.uk/school-uniform/>

Attendance

The government guidance states that all children are expected to be back in school on 8th March and this will be mandatory. The guidance also states that parents have a duty to ensure their child attends regularly at school and that the local authority can issue fixed penalty notices in line with their code of conduct.

Clubs

We plan to resume our after-school clubs on week beginning 26th April after Easter. Parents who booked the clubs for Jan/Feb will be automatically carried forward to this date.

Breakfast club

Breakfast club will be open as normal from 8am each day so please let the school office know if you need to book and pay a place for your child to support working arrangements.

Equipment

Please can your child bring their home **reading diary** back to school on each day as usual and any school exercise books or equipment that they currently have at home. Some classes also have whiteboards at home which will need returning.

Please can any loaned laptops be returned in line with our agreement. Thank you.

We hope your child is excited to return to school and to see their teacher and friends in person rather than on the screen. I hope there will now be light at the end of the lockdown tunnel and that we have a brighter spring and summer term ahead.

We look forward to welcoming all of our children back in school at Tankersley St Peters. We have really missed our children over the recent lockdown period and hoping, once again, that we can return to some kind of normality. We will see you all on Monday 8th March,

Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any queries.

Stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs Proctor-Blain and Tankersley St Peters staff



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