



14th July 2021

Executive Head: Mrs M. Mohamed BSC.HONS, LPSH, PGCE, PG.DIP

Head Teacher: Mrs D. Ghafori

Dear Parents

Re: End of Academic Year Update

Dear Parents / Carers,

Assalamu alaikom.

I hope this letter finds you in good health and strong Imaan.

We are approaching the end of a -at times turbulent- academic year, and I am sure that we are all looking forward to a hopefully safe and relaxing summer break, insha'Allah.

This letter is to inform you of some of the plans for September, insha'Allah.

Staggered Start / End of School Day

Many of you have expressed that you would like the staggered start/end to the day to continue; we too found that pupils going straight to their classrooms where their teachers and an activity are waiting for them, has resulted in a calmer start to the day.

The table below sets out timings and access gates.

Bubble	Drop-Off	Access Gate	Buiding Entrance Route to classroom	Collection Time / Access Gate
Nursery	8:50 – 9:00am	Side Gate near Nursery	Nursery ramp Straight into Nursery classroom	3:15pm / Side Gate
Reception	8:50 – 9:00am	Main Gate from staff car park	Reception playground gate Through playground stright into Reception classroom	3:15pm / Main Gate
KS1 (Y1 & Y2)	8:40 – 8:50am	Side Gate near Nursery	Back door Straight to classroom	3:30pm / Side Gate
KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6)	8:40 – 8:50am	Main Gate from staff car park	Enter via dining room Up main staircase straight to classroom	3:30pm / Main Gate

You will notice that the earliest drop off time is now 8:40am; this is to allow us to return to daily 'live' staff briefings, which fell victim to the the bubble system and were thus suspended last year and replaced by emailed briefings. However, live meetings are more effective in terms of internal communication and we are keen to return to these.





You will also notice a later end to the day for Key Stage 2 (Yr3 to Yr6) pupils to allow for prayer time at the end of the day.

Transition to New Class Teacher

Sadly we had to send Year 2, Year 3, Reception and Year 5 into self-isolation with their returning date in September. Consequently, the transition sessions planned for Monday 12th July were not able to go ahead.

We will therefore have a transition morning on 6th September 2021, the return to school date for our pupils, and all pupils will go back to their present teachers in the morning and then meet their new teachers in the afternoon. Our youngest pupils in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) will be given more time, insha'Allah.

Please follow the drop off timings and playground access gate for your child's new class (September 2021) and we will reunite them with their present class teachers, insha'Allah.

School Reports

We delayed end of year assessments this year as much as possible to give pupils more learning time. School reports are now ready and will be sent out today with your child. Please look out for these, be proud and praise your child/ren! Our pupils have shown great resilience this year, taken lockdowns, self-isolation and remote learning periods in their stride and have worked very hard. Inevitably, there are some gaps in their learning, particularly with our younger pupils for whom remote working was more challenging. Assessment results and progress tracking records have been passed on to the new class teachers who will continue in September to build on pupils' prior learning and address gaps if and where necessary to ensure that strong foundations are built.

Reception school reports are in progress and Miss Grant is working very hard to have them ready as soon as possible. Parents will be informed via text message when they are ready to be collected.

School reports for pupils in self-isolation will be given to their sibling if they are in school, or can be collected from the school office tomorrow and Friday from 10:00am to 3:00pm.





Summer Activities Pack

Pupils usually experience what we refer to as 'summer dip', i.e. pupils' standards upon return in September are usually lower than at the end of the summer term and normally it takes about six weeks to get them back to where they were. We are therefore sending 'Summer Activity Packs' for all our pupils to cushion the impact of the expected 'summer dip' as much as possible. These packs do not need to be returned in September.

School Dinners

Unfortunately our caterers, R & K Catering, are in the process of ceasing to trade and we had to look for a new supplier. We are, at present, in the final stages of negotiating with a new caterer. We will update you via a separate letter when all details have been finalised and conditions agreed. We are aiming to reintroduce school dinners as soon as possible in the autumn term after the return of our pupils, provided that a minimum of 40 pupils sign up as requested by the caterer.

Bubbles...bubbles...

We continue to follow government announcements and updated COVID guidance. At the time of writing it seems likely that the bubble system in schools will no longer be a requirement and that we can return to operate 'normally'. However, I think we have also learnt that unfortunately, matters and guidance can change very quickly.

I will send you all essential advice and updates prior to our pupils' return to school in September, insha'Allah.

Appointment of Maternity Cover Teacher

As many of you are aware, Mrs Rahimi our Year 4 teacher is expecting, masha'Allah, and will start her maternity leave at the end of this week. We wish her the very best and a safe delivery, and are looking forward to her return next summer, insha'Allah.

We have appointed Mrs Khanum to provide maternity cover. Mrs Khanum will be teaching Year 4 from September together with Ms Hatahet and we are looking forward to welcoming her in September.





Thank You

Last but by no means least, it remains for me to thank you all for your support during this academic year; remote learning in particular was a challenge for all, pupils, parents and staff alike - but everyone rose to the challenge and supported each other in true community spirit.

I wish you all a blessed day of Arafat, joyous Eid and a beautiful and safe summer holiday and am looking forward to welcoming back our pupils and their families on Monday 6th September, insha'Allah.

Jazak'Allah khair.

Kind regards

Wasalaam

D. Ghafari
Head Teacher

