



7th Sept 2021

Dear Parents,

From the Headteacher

Hello and welcome back to the start of the new academic year. I hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday.

Everyone has been busy in school over the holiday and particularly the last few days to get everything ready for the start of the new term. We are all looking forward to welcoming the children back and beginning the new year, which hopefully be much more normal.

To help keep things open and remain as normal as possible we would ask you to continue in the same way as last year- please do not send your child to school if they are ill and if they are displaying any covid symptoms - temperature, cough, loss of taste and smell and/or muscle aches please carry out a PCR test and keep your child off until you receive the results. Thank you for your help with this.

We will continue with regular hand washing and use of hand sanitisers and rooms will be ventilated as much as possible.

Please see below for a reminder of the information that was sent out at the end of the summer term.

Walking bus - the [online form](#) for this has been amended and will now let you select multiple choices for each day. You must complete this form for your child to be able to use the walking bus please.

Tempest Photography will be in school this Thursday to take individual / family portraits. We are planning to allow a slot from 11am for you to bring in siblings who do not yet attend school. Please complete [this form](#) if you have siblings that you would like to appear in family photos.

After school clubs will start again from the week of 20th Sept. Initially we will be offering:

Monday - Football club KS2

Wednesday - High Five club KS2

Thursday - Performing arts club (leading to up to our Christmas production) Year 1 -6

There will be charge of £5 per child for each club for the half term to help cover the cost of resources and staffing.

TO BOOK - PLEASE PURCHASE FROM THE SHOP IN PARENTMAIL (available later this week)

Arrangements for September 2021

Start of the day: All classes will start at 9am.

We have decided to keep the current system of parents leaving children at the gate and children going straight into their classes. We have found that the children settle to their learning so much

quicker and hopefully it makes drop off times easier for parents. There will be a member of staff at the school gate and children can be dropped off from 8.50am.

We would ask that parents continue to use our drop and go system of pulling up at the school gate dropping your child off and driving on down the lane in a one-way system rather than trying to turn and drive against the flow of traffic. Parking is incredibly challenging near the school!

We will also be operating our **walking bus** again from September, children can be dropped off at the village Hall and 2 members of staff will walk them safely to school. They will also be walked back to the village hall at the end of the day, arriving there at 3.25pm for collection by parents. Parking is not permitted in the village Hall car park unfortunately, but if you pull into the entrance to the village Hall children can be dropped off or collected from there alternatively there is limited parking along the road side.

A consent form must be completed before any child can use the walking bus

PE will continue as normal, so trainers and PE kit need to be in school every day.

Forest schools will be as follows:

FSU	Thursday	afternoon	Your child may not be doing Forest School every week - class teachers will send out more details.
Class 1	Thursday	afternoon	
Class 2	Friday	morning	
Class 3	Wednesday	afternoon	

End of the day: FSU will finish at 3pm

Class 1-3 will finish at 3.15pm.

There will be a member of staff at the gate at the end of the day and again we would encourage parents to pull up at the gate rather than parking and your child will be sent out to you, alternatively you can make use of our walking bus, children will arrive at the village hall at 3.25pm.

We also have to say a sad farewell to Mrs Tolson who is moving onto to work at GTS , so many of our children may well still see her. We thank Mrs Tolson for all the super work she has done at Monkleigh and wish her all the best in her new position.

Please be rest assured that we will continue with all the amazing work that we do for our children's wellbeing.

Karen Reeves

From the Office *Office hours are currently 08:00 - 16:00 Mon; 08:00-12:00 Tue; 08:00-14:30 Wed, Thu, Fri.*

It's that time of year again when we need to ensure that the information in our system is up to date - I can't stress enough how important this is - we often find that families have moved to a new address, mobile phone numbers have changed etc. It is vital that our records are up to date.

Within the next couple of weeks, we will be sending home a data collection form to the parent/carer that you have previously informed us is the contact with priority number 1. We will require that the form is checked, any amendments made, signed and returned to us in a timely manner please.

Class 3 *Class 3 children need to come to school in their PE kit on Wednesdays.*

Class 2 *Fridays - Class 2 come to school in PE kit*

Class 1 *Thursdays - Class 1 come to school in PE kit*

FSU *Mondays - FSU need their PE kits - please wear kit to school.*

Sport *Please remember a change of shoes for PE every day. Thank You.*

For Your Diary

Thu 9 Sept	Tempest Photography - individual / family photos
w/c 20 Sept	GTS Year 5/6 Open Morning Tours

COVID - Do not send your child to school if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID:

(New persistent cough, or High Temperature, or Loss of smell/taste). You will need to get a COVID test - siblings of a child displaying symptoms will also need to isolate until a negative test result is received. We have also been advised that symptoms of the Delta variant are a **headache, sore throat, and a temperature** (very similar to a normal cold so quite a challenge) we would urge that any children showing these symptoms are kept off school and a test carried out. Thank you.

In line with our guidance - if we need to send a child home with any of the symptoms, we will also need to send home any siblings. Our most up to date COVID Risk Assessment / information can be found [here](#).

FOMS -

B&T Club - You are now able to book B&T Club right up to Christmas! Please book 8 days in advance using the "Accounts" option in ParentMail.

DINNERS - Book 8 days in advance please. If you miss the deadline, **phone the office by 8am on a Friday** The new menu for next term is attached and can also be found [here](#).