



Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Start of the Year Digest

Welcome back everyone, and especially to all our new parents who have joined us not only into our new Early Years but also across the school. You are all very welcome into our Steyning family. It feels exciting and strange to be back with no bubbles. It was lovely to watch the children all playing on the field together. It was also joyful to hold our collective worship on the field on Monday with everyone. What a great start to the year!

Covid-19

Please find attached documents I hope you find useful. I have put together a handy guide about 'Covid' and what to do and what will happen if someone in your household gets or is suspected of catching Covid. I hope this helps to explain the changes as they are now quite significant.

I have also included our new risk assessment which will show where we are as a school with restrictions to enable us to manage some of the risks. This focuses mostly on ventilation and hygiene. I would also ask that you support us by continuing to wear masks when coming into the school building or when at the gate when crowded.

Great news and an opportunity to support us



On Sunday 12th September one of our Year 5 teachers; Hannah Wetjen, is running the Brighton Marathon to raise funds and resources for the school. If you would like to support us and buy something for your child's class or year group, you can help by logging on to just giving and support her to support us. All the money will go towards a list of resources that staff would like for their class. If you are in the Brighton/Hove/Shoreham area on the 12th, your support would be greatly appreciated! The link for the JustGiving donation page is:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hannah-wetjen?utm_term=wzqQYzBZ5

She started wanting to raise £250, then £750 and is now so excited that she wants to reach the heady heights of £1000. We will let you know how it goes. Go Mrs Wetjen!

Website Update

At the end of the Summer Term, we launched our new school website. Please click on the link below to find out more information about your child's teachers and topics for the coming academic year <https://www.steyningprimary.org.uk/page/?title=Year+Groups&pid=54>

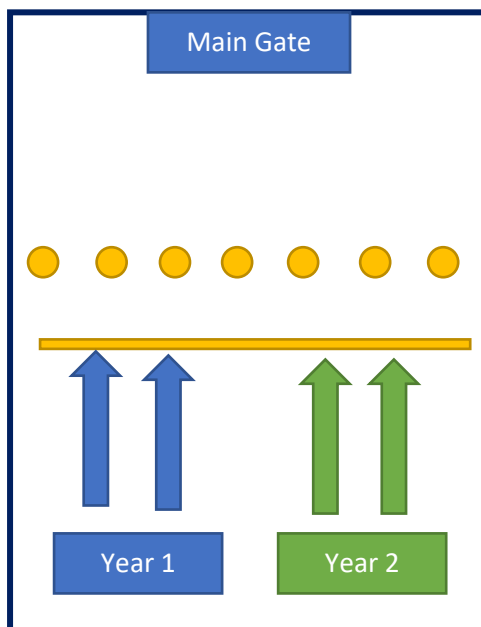


Each week we will be highlighting a new area of the website which we hope will keep you up to date with everything going on at school. Happy reading!

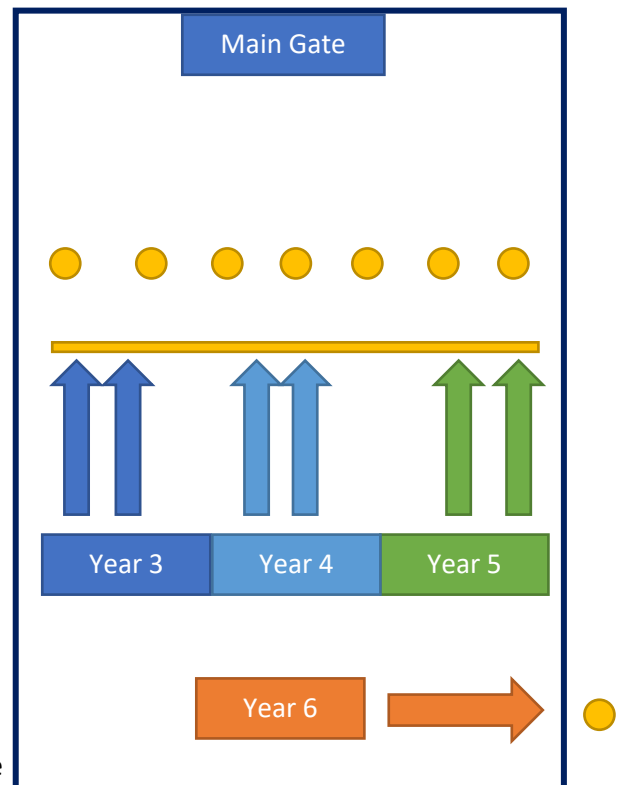
Collecting Children from school

When collecting children from school I hope this will help you to stand and wait in the best space to be seen by your child and the class teacher. I would also ask that you spread out and stand behind the yellow dots on the playground.

Year 1 and 2 gates open at 3.10pm



Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 gates open at 3.20pm



Where possible once you have collected your child please do not linger, unless you need to see the teacher. This will ensure we can keep a good distance from each other and reduce crowding.

Pens, Pencils and Pencil Cases

We do ask that children in KS2 bring in their own pens, pencils and equipment in a pencil case so that it can be kept separate and reduce sharing. Where a child does not have or forgets equipment it will of course be provided. Please ensure pencil cases are small and can be held on a desk without being a hindrance to others therefore not 'SMIGGLE' cases or oversized cases.





Food -Snacks and Lunches

This year we would like to pick up again on our 'Healthy Food' development we had started before the pandemic. This is alongside a significant number of children now in school with nut, poppy and sesame seed allergies has meant that we must bring in much tougher restrictions on what is allowed in snack and lunchboxes.

Therefore, we ask that for **snack time** children must only have:

- Water
- Fruit - fresh, dried or bar
- Vegetables – fresh or dried
- No chocolate, sweets, cakes or crisps for snack. These can still be in their lunchboxes as a little treat
- No nuts
- No sesame seeds or poppy seeds
- No hummus (as this is often made with tahini which is sesame)

For **lunch boxes** please ensure that:

- Drinks are not fizzy or have glass bottles
- No nuts
- No sesame seeds or poppy seeds
- No hummus (as this is often made with tahini which is sesame)

We would like to improve the healthy eating culture within the school at snack times and 'treats' kept to lunchtime only. Please support us with this.

Staffing

Over the summer we appointed two new staff; Lauren McPherson and Rob Gander, both of whom will be working in Year 1 this year. We welcome them both to our Steyning family.



Parking

Can I remind current parents and inform our new parents that the school car park is only for school staff. If you need to use the carpark, it must be for medical reasons and emergencies. Permits will be allocated with proof of a doctors note of the medical reason.

Dates for the Year Ahead

I know we have only just begun the new school year, but I would like to draw your attention to a change in the end of year date of the Summer term 2022. Our last day will now be Thursday 21st July 2022. This is on the diary of dates attached to this letter. This is because July 22nd has been allocated nationally as an additional non-working day in order to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.

Please find a list of dates for the year ahead, we obviously hope that that all these will go ahead Covid permitting. As always, we will keep you fully informed and with our new website, please keep checking this too. On the home page <http://www.steyningprimary.org.uk/> you will see any upcoming events and a link to the full calendar too.



I hope I haven't overwhelmed you with too much information. As ever I will endeavor to ensure that you kept well informed this year. Enjoy, rest and recuperate this weekend. I am sure the children will be tired at the end of a busy week, which is always tiring after the holidays, as we all get back into the routine.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Sue Harrison
Headteacher