



Our value for September is Relationships



As the children start or come back to school, new friendships are formed and old ones revived. Talk to your child about the value of having good friends and the importance of being a good friend. The relationships we have with our wider circle of friends and the other children in our class is important to value too.



Welcome to Catshill First School and Nursery September 2020

We have been so impressed by the wonderful start to our autumn term 2020. Some children have not been here since we locked down in March, others have been part of our Key Worker group who came in as part of our special group, some joined us in June when we were able to partially open and now we have some brand new children who have joined us in Nursery and Reception and a small number of new starters in our older year groups. We extend a warm welcome to all of you.

A special well done to all of the children - we are proud of the way you have started the new classes, learned our new systems and been so positive about being in school.

Thank you to the parents who continue to support us to keep the community safe by following social distancing guidelines on and around the school premises.

After the first few weeks, we like to give parents the opportunity to speak to their child(ren)'s new class teacher(s) in order to make sure the settling in has been smooth and so that any questions can be asked as needed. As we are unable to have our meetings in the usual way, we are planning to hold our parents evenings via telephone calls. We will be in touch with further details about this soon.

Kind regards, Georgia Plant, Head of School

You may have spotted that our new Values signs have been put up this week to enhance our Trim Trail. Designed by the children as part of a competition last year, we think they look amazing.

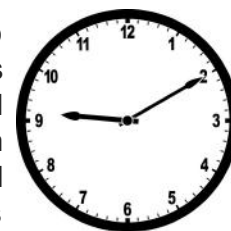


Details of our latest information regarding Covid-19 pupil related absence can be found at the end of this newsletter and is also available on our website [here](#).



ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL

We are restricting the use of the front entrance to school for pupils. This is to keep our children safe by reducing the chances of pupils from different bubbles cross contaminating within the school. Our extended opening time in the morning should support most parents who are running late and we thank parents for keeping within these extended times. Those who are late will need to sign their child in at the school office then take their child to the glass corridor (between school and Children's Centre) to await a member of staff who will escort their child to class.



Children should come to school in their PE kit or Forest School clothing on their allocated days (details of which can be found [here](#)). Please ensure that clothing for Forest School is suitable and appropriate for the weather conditions on that day. Children may wear trainers for PE as, where possible, sessions will be taken outside.

Could we please ask that additional items such as toys, games etc are not sent into school from home with your child and they only bring the items that they need for the school day.

Also, as we are trying to limit the movement of staff and pupils around school to protect bubbles, we ask that items are not brought into the office unless requested to do so.



Paying for School Meals



For pupils in Year 3 and Year 4, if you are not entitled to free school meals, dinner money should be paid for the entire week on Monday morning. Payment should be placed in a named, sealed envelope with the days of the week that dinner is required written on the front. The dinner menu is available on our [website](#) to enable you to check which meals your child wishes to have on any given week. Please note that

Shire Services are unable to accept payment on a daily basis for meals (in an exceptional circumstance please call the school office for advice before 9.30am).

Free School Meals

Has your situation changed? Do you think you might be entitled to Free School Meals? If you believe that you might be entitled, please use this link to apply [Apply online](#) | [Applying for Free School Meals](#)



School photographs will be taking place next Thursday, 24th September 2020. If your child is due to have PE that day please send them to school in their uniform and a spare pair of shoes suitable to change into for PE activities. Unfortunately, due to the current situation, we are unable to allow siblings to join in the photographs unless they are currently pupils at Catshill First School and Nursery.



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epraise

A huge thank you to the overwhelming 98% of you that have signed up to our new epraise communication tool. We hope that you are finding it both simple to use and informative and this will be used for the majority of our communications to you.

A short video can be accessed on YouTube which will guide you through the system although we may not be currently using all of the features shown. [Epraise parents guide video](#)

CATSHILL FEDERATION

Covid-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents and staff (September 2020)

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
...my child has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Self-isolate the whole household - Get a test, go to https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test - Inform the school immediately about the test result 	...the test comes back negative or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.
...my child tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. (These symptoms can last for several weeks.) AND the child feels well.
...my child tests negative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day). 	...the test comes back negative.
...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Ring on each day of illness. 	...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)
...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Self-isolate the whole household. - Household member to get a test. - Inform school immediately about test result. 	...the test comes back negative.
...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). - Self-isolate the whole household. 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified my child or household member as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us. - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). 	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.
...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The household member must self-isolate for 14 days. - Child can continue to attend school. 	...child can continue to attend school
... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sibling must self-isolate for 14 days. - SCHOOL NAME child(ren) can continue to attend. 	...child can continue to attend school
... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries.	<p>If returning from a destination where quarantine is needed*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimum of 14 days self-isolation for all those who travelled. - contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school. - Self-isolate the whole household. <p>*Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) – for up to date travel information</p>	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.



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... my child has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	If returning from a destination where quarantine is NOT needed: - Check the current Exempt countries and territories list to confirm the country you have travelled from or through is on the exempt list. - Ring school to inform us you have returned to the UK and agree a return date to school.	... you have informed the office of your return to the UK (the office will ask you a few questions about your travel).
...I have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine (but my child didn't travel).	- As long as you do not have / have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school. - The person who has travelled MUST NOT leave the house, including to do pick-ups and drop offs (please contact school if you need support getting your child to school).	...child can continue to attend school
...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	- Do not come to school. - Contact school to inform us and provide evidence to support this. - Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.	...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again. ...you receive medical advice that your child may return to school.
...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	- Child must not come to school. - Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school. - Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. - Other siblings may continue to attend school.	...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<i>If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.</i>	...the child has completed 14 days of isolation.

E-safety Reminder

We will keep this reminder about e-safety on our newsletter as we know that the use of internet and technology has increased. Please continue to be mindful of the dangers of being on-line as well as the advantages. Please see our school website for further details [eSafety](#) or use the support on the Think You Know website [Thinkuknow - home](#).



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