

Dear Parents and Families

### **Welcome back to the new school year at St Monica's.**

We look forward to welcoming all children back next week.

Years 1 to 6 start school on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Reception aged children start at various points during the week – your child's teacher has let you know the start date.

Existing Nursery children start back on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September. Children new to Nursery have been contacted by the class teacher with their start date.

### **Return to normal drop off and pick up times.**

We are returning to normal pick up and drop off procedures from September.

#### **For Reception and Years 1 to 6**

Drop off time is from 8.30am with doors opening to children at 8.50am.

Pick up time is at 3.15pm with the gates opening at 3.10pm.

You can come in and out of the front gate (currently Gate 1) and the KS1 playground gate (currently Gate 4). The Reception playground gate (currently Gate 3) will not be open. The one-way system will no longer be in place.

#### **For Nursery**

Drop off time is between 8.45am and 9.00am for the morning session.

Pick up time from the morning session is 11.45am.

Drop off time for the afternoon session is 12.30pm.

Pick up time from the afternoon session is 3.30pm.

All drop offs and pick up for Nursery are through the Nursery gate (currently Gate 3)

### **COVID procedures**

In line with national guidance, children will no longer be in 'bubbles' in school. We hope that this will enable us to return to more normal times in school, including being able to offer more opportunities such as clubs and sport to children in school.

### **Symptoms of COVID**

Symptoms of COVID are (according to the NHS):-

- ✓ a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- ✓ a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- ✓ a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child develops COVID symptoms and/or has a positive test, please do not send them into school. Please keep them at home in self isolation and get them a PCR test – please see <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> for details on how to get a test.

Details on self isolation are at this link - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

[Please email stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk](mailto:stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk) if you have to contact us regarding COVID, including the event of symptoms or a positive test.

Two parts of the self-isolation rules which may be relevant to you are:-

### **When you do not need to self-isolate**

If someone you live with has symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you are under 18 years, 6 months old
- you are taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a [PCR test on GOV.UK](#) to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

### **Tell people you've been in close contact with that you have symptoms**

Tell people you have been in close contact with in the past 48 hours that you might have COVID-19.

You should tell them to follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#).

They do not need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service.

If they get any symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and get a test as soon as possible.

### **Term Dates for next academic year**

I attach below term dates for next year. Hopefully, these will let you plan ahead. Please be aware that some MK secondary schools may have different holidays to us next year – you may wish to check this in advance for child care.

As ever, if you wish to contact the school about any aspect of your child's time with us, please email [stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk](mailto:stmonicas@st-monicas.co.uk) at any time or phone 01908 606966 during school hours.

All the best for the new school year.

Kind regards,

**Mr O'Malley**

### **School Term and Holiday Dates: 2021-2022**

<b>Advent Term 2021</b>	Pupils return Half-term Pupils return End of Term	Monday 6th September Friday 22nd October Monday 1st November Friday 17th December
<b>Lent Term 2022</b>	Pupils return Half-term Pupils return End of term	Wednesday 5th January Friday 11th February Monday 21st February Friday 1st April
<b>Pentecost Term 2022</b>	Pupils return Half-term Pupils return End of term	Tuesday 19th April Friday 27th May Tuesday 7th June Friday 22nd July

### **Staff training days:**

Thursday 2nd September 2021  
Friday 3rd September 2021  
Tuesday 4th January 2022  
**Monday 6th June 2022**

In 2022, Easter falls as follows: Good Friday 15th April – Easter Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April

The school will be closed on Monday 2nd May 2022 for the May Day Bank Holiday.