



Gatten and Lake Primary School
Oaklyn Gardens
Shanklin
PO37 7DG

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Day
Tel: **01983 869910** or **07399 815187**
Email: admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk

Friday 19th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

WE are now three weeks into the final half term of the school year and three weeks back into school after wider reopening. We have seen some bubbles grow over the last three weeks. It is lovely to be in school, seeing children engaging in learning; having fun with friends and taking part in activities to build confidence and resilience in their social and emotional development.

The children are all really focused on adhering to the new parameters in school including social distancing. I attended a webinar, yesterday, Thursday, which detailed more specifically that the social distancing in school is observed to be strong. However, if this does not continue outside of school, it is to the detriment of the bubbles established in school. Please, please, please ensure you maintain a safe 2m distance from other children and families at all times. Play dates are still not advised and most definitely not sleepovers at other people's houses. I know the children are craving the company of friends, something different, but now is not the time for this to take place. As adults it is up to us to respectfully adhere to the distancing rules and model walking and talking at a safe distance, including on entry and exit to the school site, as well as not engaging in meeting up, as that jeopardises the safety of children and adults within bubbles. Please can you help us to keep the bubbles as safe as possible.

Here are a few photos of 'school learning this week'



We must not forget to celebrate all the amazing learning that is going on at home too. I have really enjoyed watching videos uploaded, stories, poetry, maths work or key skills such as addition and subtraction as well as time and problem solving. Alongside this we've had children hiding pebbles for their class to go and find, cycling, putting up sheds, nature walks as well as some amazing leaf study work and videos telling the story of trees! The list could go on and on... we certainly have some very talented children working hard and keeping up with all their home –school learning too. If you have a photo of something you'd like us to share next week, with your permission, please email us a photo to admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk Depending on how many we get will depend on the number we can share! Thank you for continuing to support home-school learning.

I am starting to have more phone calls about enquiries about school and even wider reopening. As a school we are committed to following the Government guidance which our risk assessments refer to. As it currently stands we are open to the following children: Key worker children and vulnerable children, YR, Y1 and Y6 children.

As I have said earlier our numbers have risen but we are not at full capacity in bubbles at present. As a school, we have therefore made the decision to close entry for some year groups and extend our opening to other year groups, we will do this gradually. The plans are below...

Year Six: If your child is in Year 6 and you would like your child to return to school for learning for the remainder of the summer term, we must know by **Wednesday 24th June at Midday**. This means your child would start school on **Monday 29th June** for the remainder of the summer term, to take part in their learning in school. If your child's place is not booked by Wednesday 24th June – the place will be closed to them and we will open this space for further pupils who would like to return to learning before the end of term. The spaces will become available for Y5 pupils.

Year Five: If your child is in Year 5 and you would like them to return to school, in the first instance please call the office with an expression of interest or email the school admin email (admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk) to indicate that you would like your child to be considered for a place in school. We will then inform you if we have any available spaces for your child to start on **Monday 29th June**.

The same applies, as it has for the last three weeks. We will only take new entrants on a Monday and full time attendance is required at school, or we are blocking spaces within bubbles that other children could utilise. We also need to prepare the rooms, with workstations set up, to ensure the appropriate layout for the children within the bubbles. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this.

Please remember to wear Sports Kit to school, on the following days of the week:

Bubble Ra and Rb – Friday

Bubble 1a and 1b – Wednesday

Bubble Kwa and KWb – Tuesday

Bubble 6a and 6b - Thursday

This term is the term in school where we are usually busy with statutory testing in certain year groups, reports, final celebrations amongst other tasks focused to teaching and learning. This year is no different – whilst we have had to cancel certain events due to the pandemic and planning for all eventualities has completely taken all this time (and more) we are still looking ahead to the next school year.

Another FAQ (Frequently Asked Question) at the moment, is 'What is happening in September?' If I had £1 for every time I was asked – we could nearly afford a new adventure playground!!! But in all seriousness... in answer to this question I really do not know. I really wish I did, so we could begin planning – but currently plans have not yet been decided so we await further clarity.

However, despite this we have gone ahead and thought extremely carefully about staffing for next year. The staffing structure will be as follows from September 2020.



	Teacher (s)	Support Staff
Reception Class	Mrs Lightfoot & Ms Mitchell	Mrs Grange
Year One	Mr Sherwin	Ms McGregor
Year Two	Miss Essery	Mrs Price & Miss Sallee
Year Three	Mrs Holland-Washington	Mrs Godsell
Year Four	Mrs Frances	Mrs Barton
Year Five	Mrs Titchener	Mrs Lapham & Mrs Freer
Year Six	Mr Kirby	Mrs Davies & Miss Vokins

Early Years and Key Stage One

The Early Years Curriculum and the KS1 curriculum, especially this year, will be extremely 'hands on' where we focus on an enabling environment. This environment needs to be right for the children to learn most effectively. We are excitedly putting some plans into place to extend out EYFS outdoor area but would really like your help... we know that many people have used this time to have a tidy and a sort out and there are many piles of items awaiting a new home... we are on the hunt for any sets of saucepans that are no longer needed and old cutlery or utensils, as we begin to develop our mud kitchen area in school. We are also always grateful for any fully working die cast cars, playmobil or role play costumes that have been outgrown. (Whilst we are currently not using these – we hope to return to use these soon) Or even doll clothes or accessories! If you have any unwanted items that we could recycle for you, please do let us know. We can then arrange a safe place for these to be donated to so we can begin the sterilisation process! Thank you in advance for any donations.

Hedges on the footpath

We appreciate the footpath that runs parallel with the front of the school and the railway elevation has had an overgrown hedge. We make regular contact to ensure this is trimmed, which has been agreed this week, but this is not a full cut. We are duty bound by the nesting seasons... if there could be a nest in the hedge, they are not allowed to cut unless it is surface only. The company will return to make a full cut as soon as the nesting season has ended. Thank you for your patience.

Just a few reminders:

- Please remember it is just **ONE** adult to bring a child into school each day please.
- Scooters and bikes – please collect them from the bike and scooter rack before collecting your child. These are not to be ridden until they are off the school site please, to avoid any accidents. Thank you.
- The times of the days **MUST** please be adhered to, they are as follows:
KW Bubble – 8:45am-3pm
6a and 6b Bubbles – 9am until 2:45pm
1a and 1b Bubbles – 9:15am until 2:30pm
Ra & Rb Bubbles – 9:30am until 2:15pm
- The only exceptions to this is if there is more than one child attending from one family and children are expected to arrive at the later arrival time and leave at the earliest departure time, for the Bubbles they are in.

Please remember we are here to help you. If at any time you would like to talk to a member of staff, please call the office or email the admin address and we will get back to you. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend... last week I walked to Tennyson Monument... I think I may settle in the garden this weekend. Enjoy your out and about socially distanced physical activity and free time. Take care – stay safe.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Day - Headteacher

