



A message from our Executive Headteacher

Where have the last few months gone? It has been quite a surreal time during lock down but we are so grateful to be in a position to open our doors to almost all of our children (EYFS will join us soon.) It was great to see so many smiley and excited faces. Visiting classes and seeing the children play at lunchtime over the last two days was such a heart-warming experience and filled me with hope that we can now finally focus on moving forward.

The children did us all proud. They came back enthusiastic and settled into the new routines and procedures really well. Thank you to all the parents for working with us and supporting your children during lockdown and the summer break. We are thrilled to have them back with us.

The staff have been working tirelessly to prepare the school for our September start. Over the summer break the premises team have decorated classes, installed new water fountains (ones where children can fill their water bottles), prepared 6 different play spaces so we could keep year group bubbles socially distanced during playtimes and lots of cleaning. The classes are looking bright, cheerful and well organised. A huge thank you to the entire DKH team for their contributions!

As part of the children's transition into school, teachers have been working with their classes to establish class charters and reflecting on our new class mottos that are based around three statements: RESPECT, READY and SAFE. You will hear more about this in the coming weeks. May I take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to the new academic year. It will undoubtedly be an exciting one with many opportunities to grow and learn together.

Covid Updates

In line with DfE requirements, DKH has completed a risk assessment for the full reopening of the school. The risk assessment is available on our website and can be found at <http://dkh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/DKH-Risk-Assessment-for-September-Opening-Plan-updated-31.08.20.pdf>

If guidance changes, further updates will be posted on our website and communicated through the newsletter.

Reminders

- We would like to thank all parents for supporting us in achieving such a smooth start to the school year. We appreciate how accommodating and supportive you have been.
- As part of Covid safety guidelines we are requesting that all parents adhere to social distancing rules by not gathering in groups outside of the school, dropping off or collecting their children in a timely manner and moving on quickly.
- Look out for an email from your class teacher with a Microsoft Teams invitation to a virtual meet the teacher session.
- As of Monday year 4 children will enter from the Early Years Gate at 8:45 and be collected at 15:00 from the Early Years Gate.
- As part of our risk assessment, children should not bring in any additional items from home such as pencil cases or books.
- All children must have a water bottle clearly labeled with their name. This is vital as children without a water bottle will be unable to access water.
- Children are required a PE kit at school.

Changes



You may have noticed that the large tree at the front of the school has gone. Over the years the tree has been a perfect home to a family of woodpeckers and wildlife has thrived in its branches. Unfortunately, the tree became rotten on the inside and had become unstable. Due to safety concerns it had to be removed.

Keep your eyes open for news about an upcoming, exciting fund-raising event which will help us raise money to plant a new tree.

Bikes and Scooters



We are very excited to have a wonderful, new bike shed. A huge thank you to Ashley Elliott and The White Wall Company who coordinated and built this fantastic addition to DKH. The bike shed will not be available for the time being while we continue to maintain year group bubbles so we ask that if children use a scooter or bicycle, it is not left at school. We will continue to review this alongside DfE guidelines.

All parents are reminded to arrive at their allotted time to allow us to adhere to social distancing guidelines. Please do not arrive earlier or later than the times stipulated.

EYFS Announcements

Reception children will gradually be introduced to their new setting to ensure a smooth and successful transition. Parents and carers will receive separate correspondence detailing staggered start times.

The first day of the new school year had us all smiling with 259 children in attendance. We look forward to seeing even more children when nursery and reception return

We were so pleased to see you!

Star of the Week!



Star of the Week assemblies will be next week and take place in class on Fridays. Please check the newsletter to see which children were recognised in each class and have received a Star of the Week award.

Note from the office

It's time to update **contact** and **medical details**. Please ensure that you complete the attached contact details form and return to the school office via email by Friday 11 September.

Medical information will require an appointment with the office.

school@dkh.southwark.sch.uk

Please note **office reception hours** are 9:30-15:00 to accommodate children's arrival and departure times. The last query will be at 14:50 to allow us to prepare to dismiss children. All adults must wear a face covering when entering the school.

Uniforms can be purchased using Arbor. If you do not have Arbor access please email the school using the email above. Uniforms will be delivered to your child on a Friday.

Dates for the diary



3.9.2020	Years 1-6 return to school
4.9.2020	Year 6 motivational speak Adrian Tuitt
9.9.2020	Year 5 Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
10.9.2020	Year 3 Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
11.9.2020	Year 6 Transition Webinar at 5:00
14.9.2020	Year 1 Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
15.9.2020	Year 2 Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
16.9.2020	Year 6 Meet the Teacher session at 4:00
17.9.2020	Year 4 (Cedar) Meet the Teacher session at 4:00. Year 4 (Sycamore) Meet the Teacher session at 4:30
5.10.2020	Diversity Month begins
19.10.2020	Creativity Week begins
26.10.2020	Half Term break begins
2.11.2020	Beginning of second half of Autumn Term

Breakfast Club and Afterschool Club

Tree Tops have started providing our breakfast club and afterschool club provision. This is no longer managed through DKH. If you would like your child to attend breakfast club or afterschool club, bookings can be made directly through their website.

<http://www.treetopsclubs.co.uk/listing/dog-kennel-hill-primary-school/>