



Pilgrim News



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Proud to be ... forever Pilgrim.

*Jesus said, "I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness."
(John 10:10).*

This is the precept upon which our Pilgrim School is founded. We are committed to enabling each member of our community to flourish. Following the role model of Christ, we constantly strive to be His pilgrims.

Dear Parents / Carers

What a rollercoaster of a year it has been!

Our Pilgrim Explores Week, held in October, was a wonderful experience for all involved and culminated in another successful Farmer's Market. The Christmas Concert was a real highlight showing Pilgrim at its very best and I'm sure there was not a dry eye in the house! Then, back at the beginning of February, we had the excitement of achieving our 'excellent' grading in our SIAMS inspection. The inspector truly understood all that we hold dear at Pilgrim and commented,

"The school's holistic approach, based on its vision, underpins excellent behaviour and strong, mutually encouraging relationships. This enables all, including the most vulnerable, to flourish."

Little did we know at that point, just how vital these strong relationships were going to become over the following months!

Friday 20th March was a hugely emotional day for us all and one that remains etched on my mind. On that day, we sadly closed the school gates following the government announcement. However, throughout the days and weeks that followed I was once again reminded what a privilege and blessing it is to work with all the Pilgrim community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **all** the staff for the dedication, positive attitude and sheer determination to make things happen, that they show every day at Pilgrim. I would also like to thank each of you for your support during this challenging time. Never underestimate what your kind words, encouraging comments and positive feedback have meant to us – you have kept us going!

Now we are turning our thoughts to September and the next stage of our journey.

On Monday 7th September 2020, we look forward to welcoming everyone back to Pilgrim. Our new Acorns and Oak Trees will be joining us over a longer time period, enabling them to gradually settle in (Mrs Unger and Mrs Styles will be in touch with all the necessary details very soon). The safety and well-being of your family and our staff remains of utmost importance to us and therefore we will obviously continue to follow the government guidelines and advice from Public Health England. The following information is based on the current advice from the government at the time of writing and we will update you via our school app if anything changes over the summer break. This information is for the first term back at school in September and we will carefully review all that is put in place and adapt where necessary.

In the first instance we have decided not to run our usual breakfast club or after school clubs during term one, as with all our decisions this will be reviewed and adapted accordingly.

What will we be doing to keep your child safe?

- your child will be working in a class group bubble with staggered arrival, collection, breaktimes and lunchtimes, to minimise contact
- classes will not mix with each other
- classes will have an allocated classroom and play area
- each child will be given their own stationery pack and container to keep their personal belongings
- regular hand washing will be timetabled throughout the day with soap and hand sanitiser available in all classrooms
- PPE will be available for all school staff
- a one-way system will operate in and around the school
- touchable surfaces and toilets will be cleaned at additional points during the school day
- only 1 parent / carer will be allowed on site to drop off or collect each child, please inform us if anyone new will be collecting
- the school gates will be shut throughout the day to minimise the number of people on site at any one time

What do we need you to do?

- talk to us about any concerns you might have – we're here to support you in any way we can
- stay in touch with us and look out for alerts we send out on the school app – circumstances may change at school very quickly
- do not bring your child to school if they, or any member of your household, have any symptoms of coronavirus. Please notify us if this happens
- make sure we have your correct contact details - we will need to call you to collect your child if they develop symptoms whilst at school
- send in a water bottle from home
- no other personal belongings should be brought in eg. pencil case / toys etc.
- on allocated PE days, your child should come to school in their PE kit – they will remain in these clothes throughout the day
- on allocated Forest School days, your child should come to school in their Forest School kit but bring a change of clean clothes in case they become too muddy!
- please think carefully before bringing your car down Warwick Crescent as we will be using different entrances into the school along the road and we need to maintain levels of safety for everyone. If you need to drive to school, parking under the motorway bridge and walking down the path next to the school, is the safest option

What will happen when you drop off / collect your child?

- please make sure you arrive on time and do not stay to chat outside the school as other classes will be arriving at different times
- members of the Pilgrim team will be at entrance and exit points to guide you to a safe space
- only one adult should accompany each child
- please be mindful of each other's safety and maintain social distancing rules as you walk to school and wait outside the gates
- we will be using the three different entrances onto our site so where possible **avoid parking directly outside the school** to maintain levels of safety for all children. Parking under the motorway bridge and walking down the path next to the school, is the safest option
- other classes may be arriving at different times – if you have children in different classes please contact us for advice on drop off and collection times

- if you need to speak to a member of staff, please call the school to make an appointment rather than popping into the school office

What about lunchtime?

- the school kitchen will be open as usual for packed lunches or hot meals, however the children will eat in their classrooms as they have this term. If you would prefer you can send a packed lunch with your child
- remember your child will need a water bottle from home each day and you may like to send in a healthy snack

What time do we need to arrive at school and where do we go?

Year Group	Entrance Point	Drop Off Time	Collection Time
Year 1	Pedestrian gate onto lower playground	8.45 am	3.15 pm
Year 2	Green field gate onto lower playground	8.45 am	3.15 pm
Year 3	Carpark gate	8.45 am	3.15 pm
Year 4	Carpark gate	8.30 am	3.00 pm
Year 5	Pedestrian gate onto lower playground	8.30 am	3.00 pm
Year 6	Green field gate onto lower playground	8.30 am	3.00 pm

Once again, I'm aware that I have bombarded you with a huge amount of information! Please know that we will support you each step of the way as we move forward together into this next phase.

Remember,

God will

Go before you

Walk beside you

Stand behind you

He said, "I am with you always" Matthew 28:20

We look forward to seeing some of you at the picnics next week and we can't wait to have you all back in September.

Enjoy the summer break – keep safe and well.

Mrs Mepsted and all the staff at Pilgrim.