#staysafeteamtowers

1st September 2020 Edition number 1

Towers Times

Dear Parents and carers,

We do hope that this letter finds you well, and that you have had some time this summer to rest and relax with your loved ones albeit differently to the norm. As we approach the start of a new and certainly an academic year like no other, we just wanted to write to you to refresh you of some of the key information given prior to the holidays, we know you will be able to appreciate how fast and ever changing the guidance has been for many sectors across the country and education has been no different with yet a further update sent out to schools on Friday 28th August! Unlike many schools we were keen to get information to you before the summer break with the information at the time in order for you to make plans and put suitable arrangements in place.

As the guidance changes and evolves of course this will reflect in our systems we have as a school. We shall be opening a dedicated tab on each of the schools website – COVID-19 Reopening of schools, where updates will not just be parentmailed out to you but also posted there for ease of reference. We have worked tirelessly as a team to provide a COVID secure learning environment where possible, working with the guidance given to schools and the local authority Health and Safety team to reduce the risk as much as possible this includes increased cleaning of toilets and high touch areas throughout the school day. However, we must remember we are all living through a pandemic that no one has gone through before, we will need to be supportive, united and we will come out of this stronger, together.

To assist you, we will try to keep this letter as brief and clear as possible, and would ask that you also refer back to previous correspondence sent to you at the close of the last term.

Firstly, please can you ensure that you have completed the parentmail form indicating that you have read and agreed to the Home School agreement if you have not done so already. You may access the form by logging into your parentmail account and clicking on the Forms option where you will find the Home School Agreement.

Transport to school. The government are continuing with their message of walking or cycling to school rather than using public transport where possible. However, TFL have launched a range of new buses to support all children across London boroughs. More locally the council have begun upgrading roads to the school, some may be aware that since 24th August, Osborne Road has been partially closed to traffic due to the resurfacing of the road. Work is scheduled to finish 7th September, so you may well experience delays in your travel arrangements if you intend to drive to school, and you should allow extra time for your journey to ensure that you arrive in time for your designated start. We will, of course, keep you informed if we receive any additional information.

Arrival and collections times have been provided to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and we ask that you support us with these staggered start and end times. If we all work together as a community, we know that we can swiftly and efficiently settle the children to class with minimum disruption and anxiety. Start time and collection times are as follows:

Arrival	
A-C	8:40am
D-G	
H-L	8:50am
M-Q	
R-S	9:00am
T-Z	

Collection	
A-C	3:00pm
D-G	3:05pm
H-L	3:10pm
M-Q	3:15pm
R-S	3:20pm
T-Z	3:25pm

Further to this, we can now advise you that your child(ren)'s designated PE days are as follows:

Monday	Year 5
Tuesday	Years 2 and 3
Wednesday	Year 1 and 4
Thursday	Class 6L and 6G
Friday	Class 6A

On your child's PE day, they should attend school wearing their school PE kit, as it is not possible to change into PE kits at school. Wherever possible, PE sessions will be held outside.

Over the coming weeks, we will be developing a system whereby we will collect and quarantine school books for 72 hours before safely redistributing them, according to government guidance. We will put out collection boxes daily in order to collect any outstanding books. Please do bear with us while we establish this and other processes in order to institute successful and safe routines. More details will follow.

We want to reassure you that we have worked hard to make sure that everything is as safe and secure as we can possibly make it. There are lots of videos of how the 'one way entry and exit routes' look as well as meet the teacher videos on our school website. You may well notice that staff are wearing face shields and coverings; this is to help to keep our community safe. If you wish to also wear face coverings, then that is fine too. If you wish your child to wear a face covering, then we ask that you assist your child in safely removing this, prior to saying goodbye to you. Please don't worry if things seem unfamiliar or you are not quite sure about something on our first day back; there will be plenty of staff to point you in the right direction. We may not be able to stop and chat as we would like to, but we are more than happy to assist via email or telephone. We have tried to think of everything, but inevitably there will be questions that will require further consideration. We know that if we work together as the strong community that we are, then we will have a safe and successful return to school.

On behalf of both of our teams – we cannot wait to see you and your children very very soon!

With our very best wishes,

Ms L J Blurton, Head Teacher – Towers Infant School and Mrs C D Hurley, Head Teacher – Towers Junior School

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Havering Council will be hosting two Zoom sessions for parents and carers whose children are returning to school. The first session takes place on Tuesday 1 September at 7pm.

Meeting ID: 951 3318 7763 Passcode: 545707

A second session will be held on September 23rd at 7pm.

Uniform

Please ensure your child only brings what they need for the day i.e. school uniform including a hat if it is sunny or coat if the weather is cold, a labelled water bottle with a covered lid, lunch box if required, glasses if required.

Stay connected...

@TowersInfant @TowersJuniorSch @TowersYearX and each year group email addresses.