Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to thank EVERYONE for their patience, understanding and cooperation on the return to school. It has been so wonderful to welcome our pupils back and to see their enthusiasm for school. We have missed them so much. Our new Primary 1 pupils have been amazing! We are so proud of how well they have coped and how they have managed all the routines, especially coming in to school each day - lots of them even running in the door!!.

On the whole we are happy with the arrangements. I'm sure the children have been telling you about their zone. A zone involves no more than 4 classes. The children have been learning how to move around the school and play according to their special zone times and areas. Once again we have been so impressed by the children's resilience and willingness to follow our tighter routines. Thank you so much boys and girls.

At the end of the school day, the area outside the perimeter is busy with parents, especially around the main gate. This will be even more evident today 14.08.20 as all the children are attending school and will be dismissed around the same time. **Please can parents help us by spreading out around the school area, making use of the path/hill, park, turning circle path and pathways a little further from the school.** As suggested you could possibly arrange an agreed meeting place with your child.

**Just to remind you, today (14.08.20) the Primary 2 and 3 pupils will be dismissed from 2.50pm.**

We plan to do this in order of P2b (prompt at 2.50pm), followed by P2a, P2/3, P3, 3/4. By informing you of this more structured dismissal we are hoping you will stay back until your child's class is called. Only Primary 2b parents should be near the gate to start us off. **Please try to maintain social distancing from other adults at all times.** Also once you have collected your child please move away from the gate quickly and allow the next class to be dismissed.

The children in Primaries 4 - 7 will be dismissed from 3.00pm in a staggered fashion as detailed previously. This worked really well on Thursday.

One idea you may want to consider for the coming weeks - if you have children who have older siblings they could possibly wait inside the playground fence at an agreed spot. When their older brother or sister is dismissed they could meet up and walk together to meet you further back from the main volume of people. I saw several families following this arrangement yesterday and it seemed to work perfectly.

Our top priority is everyone's safety and wellbeing. We continually reinforce to the children the need to return to the main gate if their adult is not there. We always have staff waiting to make sure everyone is safe and sound.

We will inform you of arrangements for week beginning 17.08.20 at the end of the school day today once we have evaluated all our procedures. With a few small changes here and there and a little practice we hope to become even slicker in our arrangements.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Jennifer Hart

Depute Head Teacher