

Dear Parents,

We are all looking forward to welcoming your children back on Monday. They may be slightly anxious about returning if they haven't been in, and may also be anxious about a full return if they have been in school. This is normal. We will be expecting it and will do everything we can to ease any pressure in school while establishing routines.

We are continuing our nurture curriculum and we will work together to help everyone settle in quickly.

It is 'National Science Week' next week and the children will be outside a lot, to help ease back into school routines more gently. Therefore, children should come to school **ALL** next week, in their winter OE kits with named wellies and a weather appropriate coat.

At some point during the week we hope that the children will have the opportunity to test their boats at Milborne Stream.

We will also now revert back to systems we had in place for September, so they should feel familiar to you and to your children. Following observation, reflection and feedback we have tweaked the drop off and pick up times which should limit the time waiting between classes.

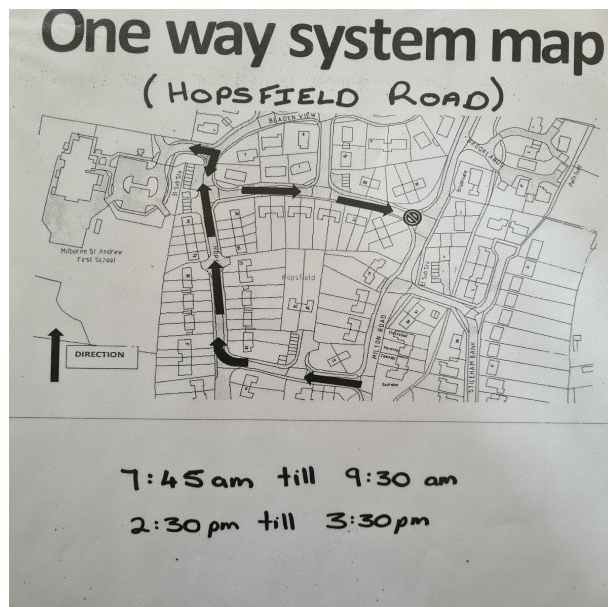
Y1/2 (Robins) drop off **8.40am** - pick up **2.50pm** (with no siblings in other year groups)  
**2.55pm** (if siblings in other year groups)

Y3/4 (Raccoons) drop off **8.40am** - pick up **2.55pm**

YR (Rabbits) drop off **8.45am** - pick up **3.00pm**

We are reopening the car park for **drop off** and **disabled parking** only. There will be members of staff at the gate to welcome children in the morning, therefore I would encourage you to use the 'Drop Off' especially if you only have one child in Y3/4 as it will make the queue shorter and help it move more quickly, whilst building confidence and independence for your child.

Remember to park considerately and to leave adequate space for emergency vehicles to get past. Can I remind you that we have an arrangement with Sarah Fox so that you can park at the pub and walk up if that helps. A reminder of the informal Hopsfield one way system is below:



With more children on site and cars possibly coming into the car park to access the Drop Off area it is really important not to cut across the car park. The children should also remain with the adult responsible for them at all times on the school site, this means no scooting/running round the school footpaths and car park, and maintaining the social distancing measures in place.

Avoid arriving too early for your 'slot' as this will create unnecessary congestion. Remember to wear your mask at all times on the school site, and once you have dropped or collected your child, please continue moving along. This will ensure the social distancing measures are maintained and limits accidental contact in the queue as well as any congestion.

Children can continue to bring their own scooters to use at playtimes but bikes can only be brought in by the Reception class.

Please see the message below from department for Education (DFE):

### **Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college**

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access **regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing**.

Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below. You should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members and should not order more test kits for this purpose. Secondary school and college students will continue to access testing through their school or college.

Please share the information below with your parent networks to help answer any questions they may have.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms,

can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- Through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- By collecting a home test kit from a local test site - anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 pack of 7 tests
- By ordering a home test kit online - please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

#### **ZOE app:-**

I have registered our school for this. Please see the information below about what it entails. I know many of you will have been completing the app daily since the first Lockdown:

Milborne St Andrew First School has partnered with the COVID Symptom Study to help make sure our students are as safe as possible as we head back to the classroom, whilst doing our part in creating the world's largest scientific dataset of COVID-19 in children.

We are asking all parents to join the COVID Symptom Study now, by downloading the free app and taking less than 1min a day to report how your child/children are feeling **each** day. With all parents reporting daily via the app, the app will provide a powerful tool for helping the school and parents understand COVID in the community and help keep our students safe. Importantly, the information you report will be invaluable to critical scientific research into COVID in children and for public health purposes - the Study will be sure to share any findings from their research with you.

So we are asking all parents to download this app as soon as possible. The app is available to download from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Simply create a profile for yourself and for your child/children. To join our school network in the app and receive personalised COVID insights about our school, go to Edit Profile for your child's profile > School Network > enter our school's Unique School Network Code (see below) > select the Bubble that your child belongs to.

Our Unique School Network Code is AR7RBKV. To avoid outsiders joining, please do not share this code with anyone who is not a parent of our school.

For more information including full instructions on how to join and use the COVID Symptom Study app please head to: <https://covid.joinzoe.com/schools>

### **What is the COVID Symptom Study app and why should you use it?**

The [COVID Symptom Study](#) app is a not-for-profit initiative that was launched at the end of March 2020 to support vital COVID-19 research. The app was launched by health science company ZOE with scientific analysis provided by King's College London. Now, with over 4 million contributors globally, the Study is the world's largest ongoing study of COVID-19.

The app also provides unique insight on asymptomatic and symptomatic information across the UK which builds into a larger picture for the government and captures information not covered by other means. The Government has been so impressed with the data and research being produced it is now funding ZOE to continue the great work.

All data collected in the app is used anonymously for informing other parents in your child's school and your child's school, and anonymously for research and for public health purposes only. ZOE takes data security and privacy very seriously and enforces [best practices](#) to ensure all data is protected. ZOE is required to protect all data by law. As the work that ZOE does takes place in the UK, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation applies.

**Hot school meals** - if you have not already done so, please don't forget to order your child a hot school meal for once they return to school. The deadline for next week has now passed, but you are still able to order right up until the Easter Holidays for w/c 15th March.

**Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs** - Please place any bookings at least 2 days before required via the Schoolcomms online booking system. You will also now be able to amend your bookings but only up until the 2 day 'cut off'. Any amendments after this will still unfortunately be chargeable.

#### **After School Clubs:-**

**Tennis** - we have received confirmation from Neil that he will be re-starting tennis club on **Monday 15th March** from 3 - 4pm. Please see the attached form and contact him directly regarding payment or booking queries. If you would like to pay him by cash or cheque, then please ensure it is in a sealed envelope with your child's name on the front and placed in the 'post box' in the main reception area. Thank you.

**Wild Art Club** - we are still waiting to hear from Maggie regarding the re-starting of Wild Art Club. As soon as we have details they will be sent to parents via eSchools.

**Please return any books** (reading, maths books, writing books, etc) and any **IT equipment borrowed** during lockdown with you on the 8th March. **Named wellies, warm coats and Named water bottles** that were taken home also need to be sent back in, these will be needed during 'Science Week' next week especially.

It was lovely to see all the reading areas and potato characters. Thank you for sharing them with us.

We will be carrying on with a focus on reading when we are all in so please make sure your child has reading books and reading diaries with them EVERY day and sign in the book when you have read together. Please send any World Book day photos to the school office, if you are happy for them to go on the website and in The Reporter magazine.

Top tip for improving reading: Turn on **subtitles** on the television! This has been proven to help children learn to read. Likewise, when watching a film, putting on French subtitles will help with learning a new language.

I am really looking forward to welcoming everyone back into school and getting closer to normality.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hunt

### **External information:-**

- **COVID research:**

*“The University of Salford is conducting some research looking at children between 7-17 usage of personal electronic devices (PED) and their effects on postural, physical and musculoskeletal systems and the impact of COVID 19 restrictions on PED usage and physical activity. Please could your children complete this questionnaire? <https://tinyurl.com/gcqlnqyp> thank you”*

The student’s participation in this research project will involve following the link provided below, which will take them to an online questionnaire. Participation in this research project is voluntary, and their anonymity and confidentiality will be ensured and respected.

Link to the online questionnaire on:

<https://salford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/childrens-technology-usage-during-covid-lockdowns>

Participating in the questionnaire the children are eligible to be entered into a randomised draw to win an iPad.

If you have any questions regarding the research project or the online questionnaire, please contact:

Researcher – Anna Clark [a.clark23@edu.salford.ac.uk](mailto:a.clark23@edu.salford.ac.uk)

Research Supervisor – Anna Cooper-Ryan [A.M.Cooper-Ryan@salford.ac.uk](mailto:A.M.Cooper-Ryan@salford.ac.uk)

- **Virtual PSAS. Parenting Skills & Strategies One-to One Phone Consultations:-**

Please see the attached flyer for more information and dates and how to book a session.

- **E-Census - 21st March:-**

Census Day is Sunday 21 March and it’s fast approaching. The census helps to plan and fund public services in your area, including your school, transport and the NHS. The information provided will help to make sure that services meet the needs of our changing society. Please help us spread the word, so we can let everyone know how important it is to fill in the census questionnaire.

Please see the attached letter for more information.