



An update from Miss Lawrence (Headteacher) and Mrs Hickinbottom (Deputy)...

Welcome Back!

It has been so lovely to welcome the children back to school after the national lockdown. We cannot underestimate how hard it is for the children to settle after such a turbulent time with lots of unforeseen changes.

We have appreciated your partnership in navigating online learning first and foremost - thanks again! But our partnerships continue as we support the children back into their school life. We know that there will be difficulties but also know that we will have great successes along the way!

Our Plans

Curriculum: We are continuing to adapt our curriculum to suit the changing needs of the children and our community. We are navigating our provision with the safety restrictions that are in place. As changes take place or restrictions ease, we will update you.

Transition: As much as we are focused on the current pandemic and supporting the children through this year, we will have to start thinking about next year. For some, this will be a move to their secondary school, for some they will be attending Danemill for the very first time, for some they will be moving from Infants to Junior and others will be moving class. All

are changes that our children need support in undertaking.

Pastoral and Family Support: We are working with many children and families through difficulties that COVID has brought. Prior to COVID, we worked effectively with children throughout challenges they face and supported them to navigate their emotions, but we are pleased to say that we have expanded our team to enhance our support further

Just a **reminder** that our Pastoral Team consists of:

- *Mrs Higham - SENDCo (Monday - Wednesday)
- *Mrs Watson - Inclusion Manager
- *Mrs Lee - Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA)
- *Miss O'Halloran - Wellbeing Support Assistant
- *Miss Sarpal - Wellbeing Support Assistant
- *Miss Hickinbottom - Speech and Language Assistant

You can contact any of our Pastoral Team on the following:

Email: office@dsatdanemill.org

Telephone: 0116 2862674

Direct Mobile for Inclusion Manager: 07340521738

Sports: This has been one of the gaps that the children have mentioned in our discussions. Although they still have their PE lessons within their bubble, they talk about missing playing sports as a team.

Guidance currently does not permit us to allow this within a school environment due to mixing of bubbles. However, Mr Ball, Mr Clewes and Mr Stannard are working on 'bubble tournaments'. Unfortunately, this will not involve playing in regular teams, however, it is that one step closer.

Contacting Teachers

We are now all back in school so please ensure that, in the event of needing to contact your child's class teacher, you are emailing the office instead of their 'lockdown emails'.

Messages are getting missed due to the teachers being in class which is leading to questions not being answered.

Our office staff are fantastic with communication especially throughout the pandemic so please email your questions or requests to office@dsatdanemill.org and they will be dealt with as swiftly as possible.

Pre-School

We are nearly full for this academic year now with only the odd available session left.

However, if you are interested in booking for next academic year, we have availability.

You can contact our fantastic pre-school team on the following:

Email: office@dsatdanemill.org

Telephone: 0116 2862674 and ask for our Pre-School Manager, Lisa Mattock.



Comic Relief

We are selling red noses (plastic free) via ParentPay. We have sold out of the bands but still have some red noses left. If you would like one for your child, then please pay via ParentPay.

Face Coverings

Please can you ensure that you wear your face covering when dropping off and picking up your child. We want to be able to do everything we can to limit infection and keep our school open for our children.

Guidance for reporting a COVID positive case

Please note that if your child tests positive for COVID, you must contact us whether this is in school hours or out of hours so that we can seek support and guidance from the Department for Education.

If it is within school hours, then please contact us via usual ways - office@dsatdanemill.org or call 0116 2862674.

Attendance

Just a reminder that we must follow national guidance on attendance procedures. We understand that this can be upsetting to receive a letter informing you of low attendance, but we would not be completing our job if we did not do this. We want to work in partnership with you and if you have any questions or queries, please do ring, and ask for Mrs Hickinbottom who can work with you on this.

Similarly, all holidays within term time are classed as unauthorised unless in exceptional circumstances.

Golden Nuggets

We were so pleased to receive so many positive comments during lockdown and this week we wanted to share them with you through our newsletter.

See if you can spot yours...



Welcome Back to Miss Stokes!

We are so pleased to welcome back Miss Stokes from her maternity leave. She will be going into to Year 3 and will teach on a Thursday and Friday. Miss Clarke will teach on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

'Thank you again for being the most supportive team for the children but also to me.'

'My child speaks highly and fondly of Pre-School, always happy to discuss her days, what she did and who she played with. She is a 'social butterfly' and I feel Pre-School has been an integral part to her flourishing both socially and academically.'

We will share more in the next newsletter! Thank you again!

CONTACT US

Please call: **0116 2862674** or email: **office@dsatdanemill.org**

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