

21st July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As we reflect on another academic year, I would like to say how proud we are of our children and how much progress each one of them has made and how they have flourished. It has been amazing to be able to welcome the community back into the school, something we will continue to do in the year ahead.

This half term has been super busy, offering our children a range of enrichment activities that enable them to develop, a recent highlight was our **Food and Farming Day**. With help from our local community and the Friends of Houghton Conquest we were able to host a wonderful day, where children were able to take part in activities including:- understanding the milling process, caring for animals, viewing farmyard vehicles, cooking bread on a campfire, learning about sustainable farming, all in the comfort of our school grounds. A huge thank you goes to all those involved as the children had a remarkable day and loved every minute of it.



Sports day took place, where we had the pleasure of welcoming a top athlete **Victoria Ohuruogu**, who competes for Great Britain in sprinting events, to the school. Victoria led a sponsored fitness station and we raised an amazing £1283.50 for Sports for Schools. This motivated our children and enabled them to hear from an inspiring role model and encouraged them to pursue their passion in life just like Victoria did. We will be receiving vouchers to purchase sports equipment for our school.

As the end of term approaches, we bid a fond farewell to our current year 4 pupils and wish them all the very best of luck as they transfer to middle school. We look forward to welcoming the children back in September, including our new foundation stage children who will be starting school for the very first time.

Looking ahead to September

Before we break up, I would just like to communicate with you which classroom your child will be in when we come back in September and remind you of our original timings of the school day prior to the amendments we made due to coronavirus. We will be reverting to these times as of the 5th September 2022.

Children's classrooms:

As you are aware our school is lovely and small, however with this it does mean that we carefully map out where our children are educated based on the size of each class as all of our classrooms are unique in size.

EYFS

Robins: Mrs Waby will be teaching Robins in the current Robins classroom.

KS1

Doves (Year 1): Miss Rolfe will be teaching Doves in the current Eagles classroom.

Owls (Year 2): Miss Crowhurst and Mrs Blake will be teaching the new Owls in the mobile classroom (the current Doves classroom).

KS2

Hawks (Year 3): Mr Birchall will be teaching Hawks in the current Owls classroom.

Eagles (Year 4): Mr Hetherington will be teaching Eagles in the current Hawks classroom.

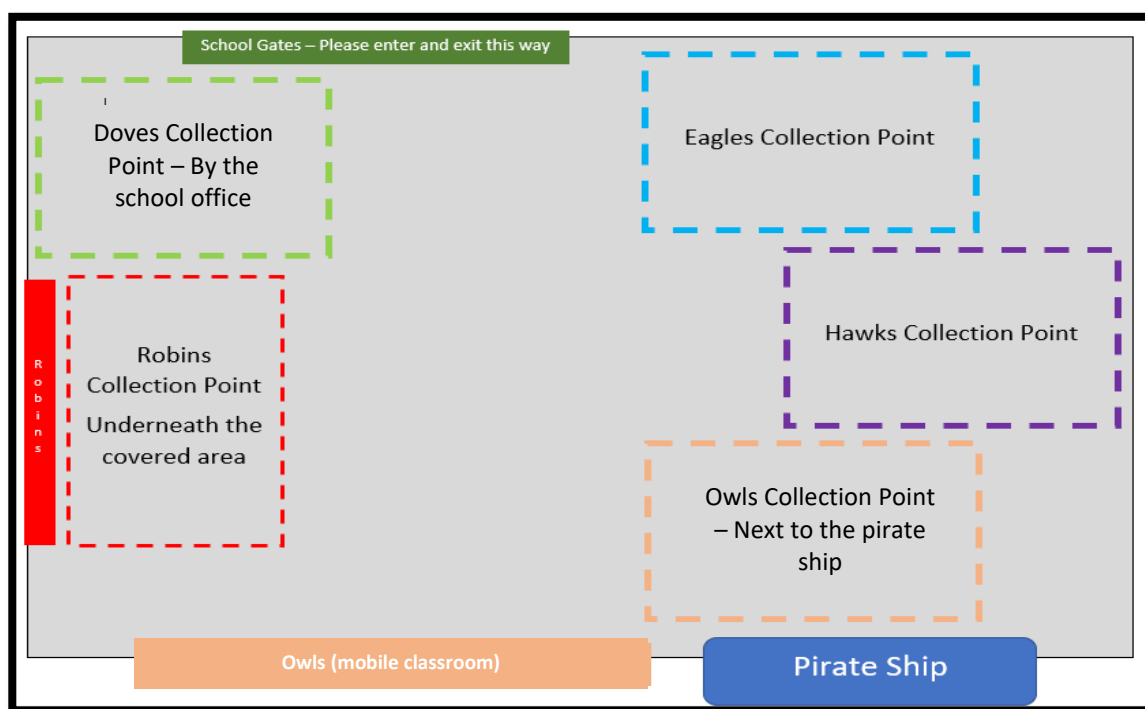
Over the summer holidays the teaching staff will be busy changing their classroom around to inspire the children in the learning when they return in September.

Arrival and dismissal times:

At the start of this academic year, we made an adjustment to the start and the end of the school day to provide parents with a window for drop off and collection to avoid congestion in light of COVID guidance.

From September 2022, school will revert to a start time of **8:50am**. The school gates for collection will be opened at 3:10pm, with children being **dismissed at 3:15pm**.

Upon collection of your child on the first day there will be a signposted area on the school playground for each class, just like this year – parents/carers will be expected to wait in this designated area for your child's teacher to dismiss. If you have children in different classes, we will ask that you collect the youngest sibling first. This helps to prevent large queues and aids in a smooth dismissal. The designated areas for each class are shown on the map below.



New staff

We are excited to introduce to you a new member of staff joining us in September. Miss Phillips will be supporting children as a Teaching Assistant in Robins. She is very much looking forward to meeting all of the children and getting started in her new role!

We hope that you enjoy the summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you again on **Monday 5th September** for the start of the new academic year. For those of you who are saying goodbye to the school as your children move onto Middle school or elsewhere, we wish you and your family happiness and success in the future.

Take care and thank you for your ongoing cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Miss Heaslip
Headteacher