



Diocese of Norwich
Education and
Academies Trust

Dereham
Church Of England
Junior Academy

11th September 2020
Autumn Term—Newsletter 1

- Welcome back! A huge thank you to everyone who has supported such a successful start to the school year.
- It is wonderful to see so many smiling faces and we are very proud of how well the children are settling in to the new routines and structures, especially after such a long period away from school for many of them.
- As we have said all along, arrangements will need to be tweaked and amended as we go—we had worked extremely hard with the planning stage, but without the children actually here, we knew that there were likely to be minor changes needed.
- The start of the day seems to be working well, although we have seen a number of children (generally older pupils) arriving on their own from about 8.20am. It is essential that **NO** children (unless in Breakfast Club) arrive at school before 8.30am when the gates open. It may be that some children just need to leave home a little later than they are currently.
- The end of the day is busier and with Year 3 leaving at 3.15pm next week, it will be busier still. As such, we have spread the leaving times to the following:

Year 3—3.15pm

Year 4—3.20pm

Year 5—3.25pm

Year 6—3.30pm

- We are asking our staff to work a longer day in order to facilitate this later end time, so please continue to support us in making home time safe for everyone. Please also be mindful of maintaining your distance from others when you come to collect as well as ensuring only one adult comes on site to bring or collect a child.

School Bus

We appreciate the loss of the 'School Bus' will have caused many of you some inconvenience. It also means that there will be more adults needing to come on to the school site. We were only made aware of this route stopping at the end of term and were told by Norfolk County Transport that this was never a 'legitimate' bus route. It was a private route offered by the bus company and not a route designated by them, as it wouldn't meet the distance criteria of more than 3 miles away from the school. The company who currently hold the Norfolk Contract were no longer prepared to run this route, so there was no option available to us. We will continue to talk to local bus companies to see if there is any way one of them will reinstate this bus.

Parking thank you...

Thank you to those who have found ways of collecting your children at the end of the day without bringing your car onto the school site. With adults waiting at the end of the day to collect their children and having to socially distance, there is definitely the need to use all the space around the gates. It is safer for everyone if cars are not moving around the school site.

If you are parking offsite, please be courteous to our neighbours and ensure you do not park where you could block their access or in areas clearly marked as not to be used for parking.

A couple of announcements...

Mrs Macfarlane, who has worked at the school for well over 20 years, has decided to retire and left us at the end of last term. We wish her all the best and hope she has more time to relax and spend time with her family. We also welcome Mrs King who joins us as a new HLTA to Year 4. Mrs King will work in Babbage Class and cover other classes within Year 4.

Mr and Mrs Allott welcomed a new arrival at the end of August, a beautiful baby boy, and Mr Jenkinson has become a daddy for the first time to a beautiful baby girl. Congratulations to both families.

