

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week all of our teachers have been holding virtual parent-teacher discussions. If you have missed this and would like the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher please phone the school office to make an appointment.

On Friday all of our children have the opportunity to meet the famous author and illustrator Korky Paul. Korky will be talking to the children about his books, what inspires him to write and of course the wonderful illustrations he creates for each of his books. Please look out for the joining information for this session on your child's Google Classroom or email from Mrs Haynes and Miss Coulson in Foundation Stage.

We are really looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school on Monday 8th March. Please do take the time to read the letter sent last week outlining all the measures in place to support the children's return to school safely. The letter asks parents and carers to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting children. This is of course voluntary, and we must all remember that there will be a number of people in our community who are not able to wear face coverings.

Accompanying this newsletter is a letter from Kevin Gordon, Director of Children's Services at Oxfordshire County Council, who reminds us all that whilst the children are returning to school on Monday, we are still in a national lockdown. So please do continue to follow the rules, this will help to further weaken the transmission of the virus in our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for all your work in supporting your children over the past two months. I know it has not been an easy task and many of you have worried about your children, their learning and the impact of the pandemic on their wellbeing. We will do all that we can to support the children over the months ahead both in terms of their academic progress and their wellbeing. I know that when your children become adults, perhaps with their own children, they will look back at this era and be grateful for all that you did to support them through very challenging times.

Best wishes

Deborah and the WF team



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**

Via Email

**County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND**

To All Parents

**Kevin Gordon
Corporate Director for Children's
Services**

2nd March 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am delighted that your children will all be able to return to their schools from Monday 8 March. School communities coming back together and children reconnecting with their friendship groups is great news after what has been a testing time for families.

I would like to thank you for everything you have done to support remote learning during lockdown. Juggling family life, learning and work has been extremely challenging for parents and carers, particularly over the winter months. I would like to say a huge 'thank you' for the crucial role you have played in helping stop the spread of the virus.

Driving down COVID cases remains a key priority as we begin the process of easing lockdown. I would therefore like to ask for your continued help in keeping our communities safe through your support for the testing programme as it rolls out in your children's schools. The testing programme is for everyone's protection and you will receive further information about it from your individual School Leaders this week, including details about on-site testing and then home testing arrangements.

Primary children must return to school on 8 March, unless you have received a letter stating that your child is Critically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV). Secondary and Further Education students will commence a staggered return from 8 March to enable testing to be carried out.

Schools have been actively planning to welcome all children back and have a range of enriching curricular activities lined up to enhance good-quality classroom learning. To ensure your children can access the full range of opportunities after such a long time at home, schools will be actively following up on non-attendance.

Oxfordshire's schools are following national guidance on COVID safety and have a suite of measures in place. Face masks will be required in all areas of secondary schools from 8 March until further notice; they must also be worn on school transport and public transport. Please also note that social distancing must be observed at school gates at drop-off and collection times. I realise that parents will be keen to catch up with one another after lockdown, but please ensure you observe social distancing so that we can keep everyone safe.

I know that you will want to support all of these measures to keep our communities safe and please do encourage your children to adhere to them.

For further information and guidance to help you plan for your children's return to school, please visit www.gov.uk/backtoschool.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KSG', is centered below the text 'Yours faithfully'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

Kevin Gordon
Corporate Director for Children's Services