



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Rock Road  
Storrington  
West Sussex  
RH20 3AA

Headteacher: Mr W. McDonald  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs E. Hopkins  
SENCO: Mrs R. Stender  
Operations Manager: Mrs G. Ritchie

Tel: 01903 740176

Email: [office@thakehamps.co.uk](mailto:office@thakehamps.co.uk)

Web: <http://www.thakehamps.co.uk>

# 'At Thakeham we CARE'

Courage • Ambition • Respect • Enjoyment.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2024

Dear Families,

## Welcome Back!

We are delighted to welcome all pupils back this Wednesday at 08:40am. Please see below for some useful information. I apologise for the long letter.

### **Safeguarding**

The Safeguarding Team remains the same. Mr McDonald is Safeguarding Lead with Mrs Hopkins and Mrs Stender as Deputies. If you have any concerns, please ask to speak with one of them in the first instance. Refer to our website for associated policies and contact information. Remember, if a child is in immediate danger please call 999.

### **Routines**

Most of our routines remain the same bar one small change to how Wonder Class come in in the morning.

The gate will open at 08:40am and pupils can enter from that point and go straight into class.

Due to the on-going building work, children in Wonder Class will need to enter the school via the 100-square entrance on the main playground. The children know this entrance because they have used it during break and lunch times. Mr McDonald will be standing there every morning until the building work is complete to help guide pupils inside.

At the end of the day, teachers will bring pupils out for you to collect at 3:15pm. Please wait for them on the playground. The usual arrangements for Year 6 remain in place with Year 6 being the only year group that can walk home on their own (subject to permissions being received via the school office).





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A reminder that animals are not allowed on the playground as they can trigger allergic reactions.

The gate will shut at 08:50am after which you will be considered late.

## Attendance

Attendance is a legal requirement and parents/carers are expected to do all you can to ensure your child is at school. This is a top priority for us this year. We do not encourage taking term-time holidays and ask that you ensure children arrive on time. Regularly missing school or being late adds up. For example, missing one day a term equates to one week which can be an entire unit of work missed. In turn, they may then struggle to acquire the missed skills and underperform. This can lead to feelings of low self-esteem and no one would want that for a child.

We will only authorise absences in exceptional and compelling circumstances, such as death of an immediate relative or medical appointments. You will need to complete a removal from learning request form and provide evidence.

## Uniform

Please sure your child is wearing the following:

Standard Uniform:

- White polo shirt or blouse, with or without the school logo
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan with or without the school logo
- Plain grey trousers, smart shorts or skirts (jogging pants, sports shorts and leggings are not acceptable)
- Royal blue and white small checked summer dress
- Grey or white socks, grey tights





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- Sensible black shoes, not trainers or boots

## PE Uniform:

- Royal blue shorts
- White crew neck T-shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Plimsolls or trainers
- During cold months children may wear plain black tracksuits (not leggings please)

On PE days, pupils should come wearing their PE kit. Please ensure it aligns with the requirements above. We will let you know later this week which day PE is being taught in each class.

## Staffing

Staffing remains the same as it was last year. This is fab news!

## Volunteers

If you would like to help out in school, at events or on school trips please let Mrs Campbell in the office know. We really value the support and it can be good fun!

## Medicines, First Aid and Healthcare Plans

Please ensure we know of pupil medication or first aid needs so that we can liaise with you and staff. Mrs Campbell and Mrs Younger are our Medicines, First Aid and Healthcare Plan Leads. They will liaise with you if needed.

Mrs Hopkins is our Education Visits Coordinator. She is the designated member of staff to speak with regarding any concerns you may have around any upcoming trips.

## Positive Behaviour Policy

We continue to use our Therapeutic Thinking approach to behaviour. We like it because it





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focuses on the needs of pupils, the context and the individual voice of the children. If you have any questions, please ask to speak with Mr McDonald about it.

## Building Works

The building teams have been very busy across the summer. Much of the school has been re-floored and the new building is almost complete. You will notice the new entrance corridor as you come in. The new building will be ready to use in October. We are very excited!

Finally, it goes without saying that the relationship between school and home is important. It needs to be deep and positive. If we work together then there is no limit to what your child can achieve. Please feel free to approach us, speak to us and help us ensure Thakeham is the best school it can be.

Here's to a great start back; fab term; and amazing academic year!

Take care,

Will McDonald

