



'Learning Achieving Together'

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020



WELCOME BACK!

We are so pleased to have you and your children back with us in school. Although many of you have been away for a long time, we have been working hard to make sure the school, classrooms and lessons are ready for you.

Due to Covid, there are some differences in the classroom and around the school, but they are designed to keep us all as safe and healthy as possible.

Lunch & Snacks

Over the first few weeks, children's school meals remain in 'Grab-a-bag' style whilst we support the children and staff in adjusting to the changed lunchtime organisation. Our aim is to reintroduce hot dinners by the end of the month. Menus for this will come out on the App and Website in the coming weeks.

For breaktimes, children are welcome to bring in a healthy snack e.g. fruit / cereal bars but please remember we are a **banana free** and **nut free** school.

Thank You

Thank you for being so supportive of the school during these difficult times and working with us to help find the best ways forward for your children. We loved seeing all the pictures and copies of work sent in to us during lockdown and hearing about all you were up to whilst at home.



Events

How we might run normal, calendared events such as Parent Consultations is still under review and we are considering how we can maintain this important contact with parents but do it within safety guidelines.

We ask that you bear with us regarding these other aspects of school life as we work to explore options available to us.

New School App

The new school app will be one of the main sources of communication and updates this year.

Updates and information on school life and events will be sent through the app alongside copies of letters and any other information sent out to you.

To download the app, just go to the App store / Google play and search 'Piota Schools'. Once downloaded, search for Richmond Avenue. From then on, the app will open straight to Richmond.

On the app you can:

- Set alerts specific to your children's year groups
- Tell us of children's absences
- Updated contact details.
- Complete forms such as photo consent

Class Dojo

This year all classes across the school will be using Class Dojo as part of the school reward system to support positive learning behaviours in the classroom.

Please be aware however, this system will NOT be used as a communication tool between parents and teachers. If you would like to talk to / leave a message for a teacher, please call the school office or email admin@richmond-pri.southend.sch.uk

End of Day Procedures

To ensure that all children and parents can be as safe as possible at the end of the school day when children are collected, we are implementing the following changes from Monday:

Nursery—@ 2.45pm Children will be collected from the back gate in the church Car Park. There will be a penned off waiting area in the car park. Please be aware when moving beyond this pen that it is a car park that is in regular use and there may be traffic.

Reception—@3pm Children will be collected from the Inner Gate to the reception playground. Parents can wait in the centre 'pen' from 2.55pm but we ask you leave as soon as you have collected your child so the area can be used for other year groups after 3pm.

Year 1 - @3.05pm Children will be collected from the Inner Office Gate, Squirrels first then Hedgehogs. (Therefore only Squirrel parents should come into the area in the first instance.) Please wait outside the gate and the children will come out in class lines and be handed over to you when the teacher can see the parent.

Year 2—@3.15pm Children will be collected from the Inner Office Gate (Badgers first, then Foxes). Please wait outside the gate and the children will come out in class lines, and be handed over to you when the teacher can see the parent.

Year 3—@3.05 pm Children will be collected from the Inner Centre Gate to the school playground. Parents of year three children can wait in the centre 'pen' to collect your children.

Year 4—@3.05pm Children can be collected from the Inner Bus Gate. Parents can wait within the first and second gate area and the teachers will dismiss the children to you.

Year 5—@3.15pm Children can be collected from the Inner Bus Gate. Parents can wait within the first and second gate area and the teachers will dismiss the children to you.

Year 6—@3.00pm Children can be collected from the Inner Bus Gate. Parents can wait within the first and second gate area and the teachers will dismiss the children to you.

CHILDREN THAT WALK HOME ALONE—These children will be escorted by a staff member, through the back exit of the school and the church car park to Thorpedene Gardens. These children can then walk themselves home from this point. (If you would like your child to be allowed to walk home alone, please ensure you either send in a note to the class teacher.)

In each area, please ensure that as soon as you have collected your child you leave the 'pen' so that the next class' parents can enter and collect their children. Thank you.

Thank you also to the church for supporting us in easing pavement congestion.