



Woodpark Primary and Nursery Class

September 2020

Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

Since reopening in August we have been working hard to support our children's return to school. We know that for some children this change has been difficult and we are keen to work with parents/carers to help in any way we can. If you have any concerns about how your child is adjusting to the return to school, please do get in touch with us.

We continue to adhere to Covid-19 guidance which includes social distancing and handwashing measures to reduce risk. I respectfully remind all parents and carers that the 2m social distancing rule between adults must be adhered to at all times, within school grounds and at gates. We have opened our Muga and infant playground to allow distancing between adults at collection times. Please avoid waiting at the pedestrian gate on Priory Road as this area becomes congested very easily. The staggered start and finish times for classes will continue until further notice. This measure is in place, again, to reduce the number of adults present at key times and I would like to remind parents/carers to arrive no earlier than a few minutes before your child's finish time, and to exit the Muga/playground once your child/ren have met you.

Children should arrive no more than a few minutes before their class start time.

It's super to see so many children cycling/scooting to and from school. Children have been advised that on entering the school gate they should dismount and walk their bike/scooter to the infant playground. No cycling/scooting in the playground or Muga is permitted. This is to ensure everyone's safety at busy times of day.

We will continue to have PE activities outdoors. On PE days children should come dressed appropriately. We will not be changing into indoor gym shoes at the moment. This is largely due to the cloaks areas for jackets and shoes in the corridor being out of use, keeping movement in the corridor to a minimum, again to reduce risk of transmission between pupils/classes.

Could I ask that snacks for break times are put in your child's schoolbag before they come to school. Due to restrictions we are unable to accept snacks at the school office to pass on to children, thank you.

Again due to restrictions, we can only have one adult/family group in the entrance bubble at a time. Wherever possible we ask that if you wish to speak to a member of school staff you phone the office on 01555 892251, thank you.

As and when national and local guidance is updated, we will keep you informed of changes.

Behaviour

Overall, the behaviour in Woodpark is, for the most part, very good. We have reintroduced our yellow/red/dream team playground behaviour management system across the school. If your child is given a yellow/red card it will be stuck inside the diary, indicating the reason it was issued. Children who consistently play well and keep to the rules may be nominated to be part of the Dream Team – a green Dream Team ticket will be put inside the diary to let you know.

Our expectation is that all children will keep our school rules and be respectful to all adults within the school. Within school, children who do not keep to the rules may have their 'button' moved or be given a punishment exercise. Where a child's behaviour is a significant concern this will be discussed with parents/carers to support the child to keep to the school rules.

Staffing

I am delighted to share with you that, following interview, Mrs Duncan has now been permanently appointed as Depute Head Teacher of Woodpark Primary School and Nursery Class – congratulations and well done!

I am also delighted to share Mrs McPhee's good news that she is expecting a baby, due next Spring. Lovely news!

Furthermore, we look forward to Mrs Finlay's return from maternity leave in November. Mrs Finlay will teach P1/2 upon her return.

Virtual Assemblies

Even though we can't hold our weekly assemblies in the traditional sense at the moment, we are excited to have introduced our Woodpark Virtual Weekly Assembly, where we share our excellent work, celebrate achievements in and outwith school, find out who the weekly House winners are, and more. A lovely way for us to feel connected as a school during these different times.

Dates for your diary...

September Weekend

School closed on Friday 25th and Monday 28th

September

Inservice Day

Tues 29th September – closed to pupils

October Holiday

School closed from Monday 12th to Friday 16th October



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Covid-19

If your child displays symptoms of Covid-19 ie a new, persistent cough; fever/temperature; loss of taste/smell they must not attend school. Follow the most up to date NHS guidance regarding isolation and Test and Protect. Please ensure you inform the school that your child is absent due to Covid-19 symptoms.

If your child becomes unwell during the school day with Covid-19 symptoms you will be contacted immediately to collect your child. They will wait in the designated area, ie multi-purpose room, away from other children, under adult supervision. You must then follow the most up to date NHS guidance regarding isolation and Test and Protect.

Absences

Parents/carers should contact the school before 9.30am if your child is absent from school for any reason, thank you.

Finally, you will be aware that I have been required, with my family, to self-isolate as a member of my family was identified as a close contact of a person who tested positive for Covid-19. I would like to reassure you that the family member tested as negative for Covid-19, and we remain in good health. I look forward eagerly to returning to school on Thursday 24th September.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,
Mrs Debbie MacKenna
Head Teacher