



20 September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

It has been wonderful to welcome old and new families to Hawley over the past couple of weeks; we have had several new pupils throughout the school and we also have our Nursery and Reception pupils starting over the next couple of weeks.

The children have settled quickly into our new routines and their excitement has matched our enthusiasm to have them back in school. Their teachers have been spending the first couple of weeks getting to know your children and they will also be carrying out assessments to find out where they are in their learning

As you are all aware, each class in the school is being treated as a 'bubble' and as such each bubble's movements and activities are limited to being within the group. This way if there is an instance of COVID-19 in any class it can be contained within that bubble. It is for this reason that we have a staggered start and end of day and staggered lunchtimes too. It is also extremely important that the bubbles do not mix or cross each other during the school day unless they are siblings or part of a 'family' bubble.

The beginning and end of the school day

The times for the beginning and end of the day are posted at each gate leading in to the school. Thank you to everyone who has managed to adhere to these times.

We understand that some of you have more than one child to deliver and collect, however we have allowed 10 minutes for each bubble to arrive. For this reason we cannot make the waiting time shorter between the classes, therefore it is necessary for some families to wait in order to collect all of their children.

Please note that if you are late arriving to or collecting from school you may have to wait. Once another class has already started coming in or leaving, we cannot allow the bubbles to cross each other therefore the person who is late has to wait.

We have over 200 children leaving the school within 20 minutes of each other. It is extremely important that you leave as soon as you leave as quickly as you can once you have collected your child/children as Torbay Passage is a public thoroughfare route between Hawley Road and Camden Lock. Please do not allow children to scooter, cycle or run up and down at the end of the day.

We would also like to remind all parents that they should do their utmost to remain socially distanced from each other at all times.

Testing for Coronavirus

This past week has certainly reminded us that the Coronavirus is ever present and that we need to keep to the government guidance regarding hygiene and social distancing.

Some of the children have seasonal symptoms of coughs and colds, and as some of these symptoms are similar to those of Covid-19 this has caused some anxiety, not only in our community but across the country. If you are in any doubt that your child has nothing more than a cold it is essential that you get your child tested. However, it is important to note that under 2% of all children tested test positive.

The current guidance states that if your child or any member of your household has one or more of the following symptoms:

- **a high temperature** - hot to touch on the chest or back
- **a new, continuous cough** - cough a lot for more than one hour, 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hrs
- **a loss or change to sense of taste or smell**

Stay at home and access a test. Do not have visitors to your home. The test must take place in the first five days after the onset of symptoms. The person with a positive test must stay at home for **10 days** if they have a confirmed positive test. In the event of a positive test, all other members of the household must self-isolate for **14 days**.

If your child has a negative result and no one else in the household has any symptoms, which require the family to stay at home, your child can return to school, providing they are well enough to do so.

Nasal Flu Vaccine

The national flu vaccination programme will ne be taking place again the year for children in all classes from Reception to Year 6. At Hawley it will take place on **Monday 12th October**. This is administered via nasal spray, **not** an injection. The vaccine will only be given to those children whose parents/guardians have given permission for their child to participate in the programme. A separate letter and consent form will be coming home this week from Central & North West London NHS.

Administering medication

It has been brought to our attention that there is concern in the locality that schools will administer medication and vaccines and tests without parental permission. Please note that we only administer medication to children with medical care plans, written by medical professionals and given to us by their parents. We will only administer medicines with written permission from the parents. The only other medical care that we give is emergency first aid.

When a child presents as feeling unwell and appears to have a temperature, we will take their temperature in order to inform us as to the urgency of their needs, and their parents if we need to contact them.

We do not administer anti-biotics.

There are currently national programmes in relation to dental health, influenza and weight measurement. These are conducted on the school premises but children can only participate with parental permission.

Class newsletters

Unfortunately, it is not possible to have class meetings at the beginning of the year as would usually happen. On Monday 21st September class newsletters will be sent out and will be on the website. If you have any questions for your child's class teacher please do not hesitate to contact the school office so they contact you later.

We will be having parent teacher meetings later in the term and we will inform you as to how these will take place nearer the time.

Home Learning

All of your children should have or will receive their log on details for Google Classroom or SeeSaw learning platforms. These will be used for home learning on a weekly basis and will also be used to deliver lessons should bubbles or should the school need to close due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Assemblies

We feel very sad that we cannot hold our annual Harvest celebration this term. It is usually a wonderful assembly where the children share songs, stories, poems and at work about the season. It is a time when we think about those who work to produce the food we eat and also when we collect food for the needy in our community.

In the week before half term (w/c 19th October), when we would ordinarily have our Harvest Assembly, each class will share an assembly with their parents. We will send further details nearer the time.

In the meantime, as you cannot come in to school, all of the classes are aiming making more use of our website so that you can see some of the work the children have produced. Please take a look from time to time.

Breakfast and After-school clubs

We have had a number of queries about whether we will be running a breakfast club or after-school clubs this term. For the time being, due to the inability to mix classes of children we are unable to run the clubs, much as we would like to.

Diary Dates

- **Tuesday 22nd September – Meet the Parents 6.30-7.30pm**
Year 6 parents meeting with parents from local secondary schools
- **Monday 12th October – Nasal Flu Vaccine for YR to Y6**

Please find attached a letter regarding Home Reading

With all good wishes for a safe and healthy week ahead,

Anne

Anne Fontaine
Headteacher