

#### Newsletter

1st March 2021

We are as pleased as many of you that the government confirmed that all children should return to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. There is a lot of information to share regarding this return and we will aim to share that in this newsletter alongside other newsworthy items.

Stop the press! World Book Day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>-March We have decided to change our day to celebrate World Book day to Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.



Mr Fraser & Miss Hall have organised a special book inspired few days as part of World Book Day celebrations. We are not promoting a

character outfit dress up day this year, but rather an opportunity to wear pyjamas (with extra clothes underneath). We have changed the day so we can all experience this in school together.

#### Welcome to Mr Ellis – Vice Principal

Last week, Mr Ellis joined HVA as our new Vice



Principal. Mr Ellis will deputise for myself and hold various responsibilities not least Teaching & Learning. He'll also work closely with myself and Mrs Brice, Assistant Principal, and our colleagues in the senior leadership team (SLT).

#### PTA – Mother's Day fundraiser



See flyer attached to this newsletter advertising the PTA Mother's Day Afternoon Tea.

Go to the <u>HVA PTA Events Facebook</u> <u>page</u> and place an order that will be delivered to your door.

#### Survey on road system on Whitney Crescent

Thank you to those who contributed to the survey regarding Whitney Crescent and a possible proposal for a one-way road system. Should there be a one-way traffic road system for this road? The survey results indicate very strong feelings by Whitney Crescent residents against any possible proposal and also very strong feelings by others about the safeguarding benefits for children during collection and drop off times. At this time, the school will not look to propose a one-way to the local residents or Persimmon, and instead explore other good ideas suggested in the survey that may support improved safety for children.

#### INSET - 17th March - Postponed

See more information below but this INSET will be rearranged and 17<sup>th</sup> March is a normal school day.

#### Our learners at home and in school

We've had a great start back to Term 4:



Year 1 counting in fives with objects as mathematicians



Year 3 exploring insects, as scientists, in the Forest School area and at home.



Inspired by the Very Hungry Caterpillar story, Pre-school also searched for insects around school.







Year 2, as historians, researched and presented their famous inventors

Please read all the information below to support the return to school next week – including the additional letter from Mrs Brice, Assistant Principal.

Mr Jones

@HaywoodVillAc 01934 312720 enquiries@haywoodvillageacademy.org.uk

### Returning to school – Monday 8th March

We are looking forward to welcoming all children back into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. However, we also understand that as well as being met with relief and excitement there may be some anxiety and trepidation. Therefore, we have put together some advice and tips to support you and your child with this transition and these are shared in Mrs Brice's letter. The following information provides practical arrangements for returning:

### Mandatory attendance

We understand that some pupils, parents and households may be reluctant or anxious about pupils returning. This may include:

- pupils living in households where someone is clinically vulnerable; and/or
- those concerned about the comparatively increased risk from coronavirus (COVID-19), including those from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds.

We would like to reassure you that we are here to support all our pupils and families and will do our utmost to help your child return to learning on the school site and to enjoy being with their friends again. The usual rules on school attendance will apply from 8<sup>th</sup> March, including:

- parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

As usual, schools are responsible for recording attendance, following up absence and reporting children missing in education to the local authority.

We want our pupils to attend school every day, unless they are really not well enough to. We believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education.

If you have any questions or worries about your child coming back to school due to the risk of COVID-19 or because of the concerns you have about how your child feels, please contact us as soon as possible – email <a href="mailto:Mims.Yacomeni@clf.uk">Mims.Yacomeni@clf.uk</a>,

<u>enquiries@haywoodvillageaacdemy.org.uk</u> or your child's class email address. We want to listen to any concerns you may have and do our best to help support transition.

#### Drop-off, collections & attendance:

- Pupils are expected to arrive at school in time by 9:00 am and can arrive between 8:40 am 9:00 am when either school gate doors open.
- All children can be encouraged to walk into school from the playground gates.
- We are asking that only <u>one parent</u> collects and drops off their child and face masks are worn within our school grounds.
- Year 4 & 5 children can walk onto the school site without adults and if they are walking
  independently, we ask that an email letter confirming this parenting decision is sent to
  enquiries@haywoodvillageacademy.org.uk
- Year 4 & 5 should arrive and exit via the MUGA to reduce congestion.
- At the end of the day, collections can be between 3:00pm and 3:20pm to support a reduction in congestion. We would like parental support to implement an alphabetical collection time:
  - 3:05 Family names beginning with  $\underline{A} \underline{F}$  e.g. Paul Allen, Penny Drain, Phil Farleigh.
  - 3:10 Family names beginning with G L e.g. Mel Green, Joe Jules, Sami Levi.
  - 3:15 Family names beginning with M <u>– R</u> e.g. Ryan <u>M</u>orley, Don <u>O</u>pal, Lisa <u>R</u>utherford.
  - 3:20 Family names beginning with S <u>- Z</u> e.g. Andy <u>Sleen</u>, Fiona <u>Wince</u>, Ravi <u>Zool</u>

- If a pupil arrives late to school (after 9.00 am), they need to go via the school office.
   Please note, they will be marked in the register as late.
- A pupil who arrives late but before the register has closed will be marked as late (L) which still counts as present.
- If a pupil arrives very late (after **9:30 am**), they will be marked with the unauthorised absence code 'Late after registers close' (U).
- Please note: If the pupil is late arriving due to a valid reason such as an unavoidable medical appointment, the absence will be authorised.

# If your child is too ill to attend school

If a pupil is too ill to attend school, parents/carers should notify the office before 10am on the first day of absence. If your child is ill for more than one day, you will need to call on each morning of the absence, unless otherwise agreed by the school.

To report an absence, please contact the school by calling the office on 01934 312720 or by emailing enquiries@haywoodvillageacademy.org.uk

Please clearly explain the symptoms your child has, when the symptoms started, and when you expect them to be well enough to return to school.

## Clinically Extremely Vulnerable

The Department for Education has said that all pupils should return to school on Monday 8th March unless they have a letter to say they are Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and should continue shielding, or they are one of the very small number of pupils under paediatric or other NHS care who have also been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend school.

We are really sorry that some of our pupils may not be able to return to school straight away because of their health needs. We will continue to work with any of our pupils who cannot return yet, to ensure they feel as involved in school as possible and we will continue to provide remote learning (although this will be different to the current offer as teachers will be back teaching full-time with children in class).

#### **Risk Assessment Review**

Our Health & Safety team have reviewed the range of measures we have in place to mitigate and reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmitting within our school community.

We will largely revert back to the Risk Assessment from December, however we can confirm the following additional measures:

- Masks (see below)
- Lateral flow tests for staff (see below)

#### Masks

There has been no change to the Government recommendations for face coverings in primary schools. The Government recommends that face coverings are worn in early years and primary schools for staff and adult visitors where social distancing between adults is not possible, for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas. Therefore please share with your children that some staff may from time to time wear masks and or visors in school.

#### Lateral flow tests for Primary school staff

Our staff will continue to undertake the lateral flow tests twice a week to support our safety measures. These have been in place for Term 3 and will continue.

## In-school learning

Pupils will still learn and play in class bubbles and as much as possible ensure there is limited cross over of children at playtimes and lunchtimes.

We will continue to teach all children and fully recognise that children may well have gaps in their learning. You may have noticed this and as parents, you may be concerned. As part of usual teaching and learning, our teaching team will assess the children within lessons and through some assessments to inform their teaching and identify the areas to support your child. We are focused on developing your child and so our informal assessments will include children's social, emotional, attitudes and dispositions.

## Thrive Approach – Mrs Innes (Learning Partner)

As part of supporting children to develop their social and emotional development, we organise, in addition to class teaching, opportunities for children to work in small groups with Mrs Innes, who is a trained Thrive Approach practitioner. You can read more information about the Thrive Approach on the following website: <a href="https://www.thriveapproach.com/the-thrive-approach/">https://www.thriveapproach.com/the-thrive-approach/</a>. This support is overseen by Mrs Lovely and Mrs Brice. If you have any queries about your child being supported by these small group sessions, please contact Mrs Lovely or Mrs Brice.

#### **Uniform:**

NK Sports have confirmed that they will re-open this week to support uniform purchases. We recognise that children may have outgrown their current school shoes. Until 12<sup>th</sup> April, if families can not purchase school shoes, we understand if your child needs to wear trainers or other practical footwear.

## **Sports Clubs:**

Sports Clubs will not resume this term.

#### **Forest School:**

Tuesday: Year 4 Maple

Wednesday: Year 4 Mulberry

#### **Lunches:**

All meals for Reception, Key Stage 1 and those in Key Stage 2 who book school meals can order by completing the school meals form as previously sent via text (26.2.21): <a href="https://tinyurl.com/m3fnjcj7">https://tinyurl.com/m3fnjcj7</a>

#### Breakfast & Parachutes After-School child care

The provision for all children to book into our child care before and after school is available. We encourage all families to book as soon as possible so we can ensure we have enough staff to support.

## Did you borrow a device to support home learning?

If you borrowed a tablet or a school laptop, please return these to school next week. We will look to have these ready for future borrowing.

## **INSET** day postponed

In light of the government update, and our intention to commit fully to supporting the return of all learners, we have postponed the CLF trust-wide INSET day that was planned for 17<sup>th</sup> March and a new date will be confirmed soon. This is so that we can dedicate our time to supporting our children to re-engage with learning and with their peers.

## Coronavirus Symptoms and how to book a test

If your child, or anyone else in your household, has any symptoms of coronavirus (fever, a new cough, loss of smell/taste), your household must isolate and anyone who has symptoms should get a test as soon as possible. Please contact the school by **10am** on the first day of absence to let us know. To book a test online go to: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</a>

If you cannot book a test online, you can book a test by telephoning the NHS on 119. If the test result/s are negative, your child should return to school as soon as they feel well enough. You can find more information here, including information about the isolation period if your child or someone else in your household tests positive for coronavirus: https://clf.uk/covid-19-related-pupil-absence/

If you have any queries about symptoms, call 111 or go to: https://111.nhs.uk/service/COVID-19/ or call 111 to speak to an operator.

#### How can you support your child in their return to school?



- Talk with your child about what going back to school might look like. You might have to walk to school a different way, start at a different time, the school might look different and teachers and Learning Partners might be wearing face coverings or visors.
- Ask your child what they're looking forward to about going back to school. Some of these things might not happen so it will help you to manage their expectations.
- Show your child a calendar and look at how many days there are until they go back to school. You could have a countdown of days make it exciting!
- Think about ways to get ready together. If your child has a packed lunch, think about ways to make a special lunch for the first day – could you include a favourite snack or a note or drawing?
- Re-adjust bed times as soon as possible and get back into a healthy routine.
- Reassure your child that they will be safe at school because
  of things the school are doing. Talk about how they can stay
  safe at school e.g. regular hand washing, using hand gel,
  keeping a safe distance from people not in their bubble.
- Share coping strategies you use when feeling stressed such as speaking with friends or family, doing exercise, using breathing techniques. You could share examples of your own worries and feelings about the current situation and how you are managing these feelings.



- Children may want to come and 'debrief' but not when you expect. Create space for talking
  in different ways, such as going on a walk together, baking together, reading a book together.
  There may be less pressure in these moments for your child to share their worries and anxieties.
- Focus on the positives it may be helpful to reflect on any positives that have happened during the pandemic e.g. going for lots of walks, spending extra time together.
- Talk about what they are looking forward to in the future e.g. shops opening again, being able to play/see with friends and family again, going out for ice cream!
- Seek support if you need it. If your child is really struggling, talk to the school either through our family support worker (Mrs Mims Yacomeni) or through contacting your class teacher. We know the transition back to school will be challenging for everyone in different ways. We are here to help.
- If you feel your child is feeling overly anxious or worried, here are some tips to help you to manage this:
  - https://6282.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Recognising and responding to Anxiety-4+Trauma+Informed+Schools+UK.pdf
  - https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-andwork/school-college/school/



Mrs Brice

