

ASH GREEN WEEKLY NEWS



11 September 2020

It has been an amazing first week back at Ash Green! The children and staff have been magnificent and we could not have wished for a better start! Next week, Maths groups will start in Key Stage 2. We will continue to run assemblies virtually with the children watching 'on screen' each morning!! Year 4 will also start their specialist Music lessons next Friday afternoon!!



AUTUMN TERM PARENTS' EVENING

There is a strong likelihood that any Parents' Evenings for the foreseeable future will be by telephone appointment. The designated date for this term was to be Tuesday 20 October.

We will update nearer the time in terms of arrangements but will ensure that parents will get an appointment – probably by phone – to discuss their child's progress.



The school photographer will be in soon. This year, there will be no family photos but individual and class photos will take place with our usual strict guidelines in place!

PUNCTUALITY

It is so important that children arrive on time – even more so now during these difficult times. We have been thrilled by this in our first week, keep it up!!

ABSENCE

If your child is going to be absent then please leave a message BEFORE 9.10am.

If no information is received for absent children then their contact will receive a text.

If there is no response to this text we will then ring the contact and if there is still no response we will ring other contacts on the list. If there is no confirmation of the absence then a home visit will ensue.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Given the current pandemic there are no class assemblies scheduled at present. We will look to trial these later in the year and, in the event of adults not being allowed into school, we will ensure that these are filmed for parents and carers of the class to watch.



All bookings must be made via School Comms. We have spaces at both sites at each end of the school day.

Free School Meals Benefits – if your child is eligible **PLEASE** make sure you have applied to the Benefits Unit. Thank you.



Friday 25 September - Closed for Teacher Training Day



Half Term	Close Friday 23 October	Re-open Monday 2 November
Christmas	Close Friday 18 December	Re-open Monday 4 January 2021
Half Term	Close Friday 12 February	Re-open Monday 22 February
Easter	Close Friday 1 April	Re-open Monday 19 April
May Day - Close Monday 3 May		
Half Term	Close Friday 28 May	Re-open Tuesday 8 June
Mid-Summer	Close Friday 23 July	

SOME FACTS AND PROCEDURES

Of course it is a concerning time for everyone with the existence of Covid-19. People's worries have also sadly been exacerbated by a lot of rumours and myths and the guidance has changed so many times too! The most up to date guidance has been incorporated into our Risk Assessments and all that we do.

SYMPTOMS AND TESTS

We sincerely hope all our children, staff and families stay well. Here are some reminders and updated guidance which should answer all questions.

SYMPTOMS: The symptoms of Covid-19 are: a new, dry, persistent cough; a temperature of over 37.8°C; a loss of taste or smell.

If anyone in the household has those symptoms **all** household members should self-isolate and the person with symptoms should take a test. If anyone in the household is showing these symptoms, nobody from the household should attend school. Self-isolation means staying within our own house and garden.

If a test is **NOT** taken, the person displaying the symptoms must self-isolate for **TEN** days and all household members for **FOURTEEN** days. This is the same as if a **POSITIVE** test result is returned so it is essential a test is taken if a child is to return to school.

If a test for someone with symptoms returns a **NEGATIVE** result then no further self-isolation is needed.

ARRANGING A TEST

School staff will support parents and carers in arranging tests if children are displaying symptoms. Tests can be booked online at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. If the site directs you to a location out of area then please try the permanent testing centre at Asda- they have been providing tests without bookings for parents who have had this issue. We will ask parents and carers to inform us immediately of the results of the test.

If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to COVID-19, they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can also stop self-isolating.

If someone tests positive, they must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to the setting only if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

CHILDREN DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS

We know that we will have children and staff who will have coughs and high temperatures this year. The difference this year of course is that we will have to send children – and siblings – home who display these symptoms and support parents and carers in arranging a test.

If a child is displaying symptoms we will ensure they are comfortable and cared for in a safe, isolated space. We would phone parents/carers and ask them to collect their child and any siblings. We would support arranging a test and ask parents/carers to let us know the result.

The great majority of tests will be negative and children – and siblings – can then immediately return if well. Households would no longer need to self-isolate.

In the very unlikely event that a child were to test positive for Covid-19 we would support the child and family as always. The child would self-isolate for 10 days. All other household members including siblings who attend the school would self-isolate for 14 days.

If a child (or indeed a staff member) tests positive then the Health Protection Team would advise on who must also self-isolate. This would be likely to be the whole class bubble for 14 days.

In the event of a class bubble being sent home to self-isolate, we would advise parents and carers on guidance and also provide work for children.