

ASH GREEN WEEKLY NEWS



PRIMARY SCHOOL

18 September 2020

What a week it has been! So challenging for so many people at the moment but your children have been fantastic and your incredible support is very welcome too. Staff are working their socks off in incredibly challenging circumstances. Keep it up everyone and remember to ring us if we can help with any issue: 01422 244613- Option 1 (Lower Site) and Option 2 (Upper Site). A reminder that Halifax remains in local lockdown and from next Tuesday ALL of Calderdale, Kirklees and Bradford will be back in lockdown too. This means that people should not be visiting each other's households and this is vital if we are to reduce the risk and rate of transmission in our community.

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 next Tuesday 22nd September. This year, there will be no family photos but individual and class photos will take place with our usual strict guidelines in place!

A recent study has found that being even 1% dehydrated can affect concentration, mood and memory functions! The children have access to water throughout the day so it is vital that they have their own water bottle in school for hygiene reasons. This should be taken home each day to be cleaned and filled every morning with fresh water.

Please remember to fill water bottles with water only. Thank you.

In Early Years and for all children at lunchtime, water AND milk is available.



SECONDARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

If your Year 6 child would like to join Trinity Academy Halifax, you will need to register them to sit a Fair Banding Assessment.

The closing date for registration is Monday 21 September.

Sign up by visiting the website Halifax.trinitymat.org

Remember the Fair Banding Assessment will take place at our school in the week commencing 5 October.



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. **Please book tests online, try the drive and walk-in options, be patient as they take some time on the system. Remember you can order Home Testing Kits and we at school are also ordering as many as we can for any families who are unable to arrange tests online or through Home Tests.**

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. **Please let us know as soon as test results come back.**

In the very unlikely event that a child was 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.