



The William Amory Primary School & Nursery

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NEWSLETTER

16th October 2020 The Next Fortnight for School and Nursery

22nd October – Thursday Thriller

23rd October – INSET then half term.

School closed to children on Friday 23rd - INSET

Looking Forward

IMPORTANT - KSII Playground.

We have been promised that next week the long awaited resurfacing of our KSII playground will finally happen. Great news and a real bonus that should result in a reduced number of grazed knees and hopefully far less mud spots. This is a 2 week project as they are stripping it right back and starting over again. Half term and an INSET does make this easier.

Having planned it all this week, I have just met with the construction crew this morning and it was back to the drawing board. Here are our (new) plans for KSII drop off and pick up.

Start time

KS1 will arrive into school as normal. KSII will arrive into school at normal time.

KSII will have to enter via the car park pedestrian entrance:

- Year 3 & Year 4. The top half of the car park is your zone. Your children will come in via the main entrance – via the office.
- Year 5 & Year 6. The bottom half of the car park is your zone. Your children will come in via the fire exit on the link corridor.

KS1 late arrivals should enter through KS1 doors if you arrive before 09.10. After 09.10 go to the main entrance. KSII late arrivals should go to main entrance as usual.

Home time

Key Stage 1 will leave from the pre-Covid doors. Parents will wait on the KS1 playground. Reception will leave via their usual exit and Years 1 and 2 by the KS1 exit. Year 2 will not come out until Year 1 have finished.

15.25

- Year 4 exit from the main entrance. You need to wait on the top half of the car park. Please try and wait at the very top and exit via the gates. Make sure the member of staff can see you.
- Year 6 exit from the link corridor fire exit. You need to wait on the bottom half of the car park. Please try and wait in the car park area rather than the side path. Make sure the member of staff can see you.

15.30

- Year 3 exit from the main entrance. You need to wait on the top half of the car park. Please try and wait around the middle of the car park – keeping well away from Y4 and Y5&Y6. Make sure the member of staff can see you.
- Year 5 exit from the link corridor fire exit. You need to wait on the bottom half of the car park. Please try to stick to the side pathway if you can. Make sure the member of staff can see you.

Finally:

- Please make sure you socially distance from other parents and children.
- I would recommend adults wear masks this week.
- Please do not play around the cars or lean against them as none of us want our cars scratched.
- The driveway entrance will be coned off from 15.10 to 15.40 to make social distancing a bit easier.
- For next week, registers won't officially be taken until 09.10 and the KS1 door will remain open until 09.10 for latecomers.
- We may have to rethink it all after Monday!

Year 2 – remember – for this week you go back to picking up from the Key Stage 1 exit as it was pre-Covid.

Year 4 – remember – you should pick up your child at 15.25 not 15.30. Year 6 is also leaving at 15.25 as currently.

Year 5 & 3 remain as they are currently but use different doors.

Parents' Evening.

Given that we are not going to be able to meet you for parents' evening this term, we shall be providing a short report for you so that you can see how your child(ren) has settled in. Of course, if we have anything we feel we need to raise with you we will set up a meeting to discuss it in person.

Thursday Thriller.

We've made it through our half term! It's sometimes been a bit fraught and confusing but we've made it – parent, teacher and most importantly, children.

On Thursday afternoon we would like to celebrate with a set of zoom

challenges and activities. Bingo is even on the cards. So on Wednesday it would be nice if we could have donations for prizes such as chocolates or sweets or anything else that might be new and unused – spinning tops etc.

If you bring them in on Wednesday, we will keep them in class and we can give them out to the class as prizes and rewards.



This morning's sunrise- it did look prettier in person!

Children in Need – Transforming Lives of Children in the UK.

On Friday 13th November we shall be having a non-uniform day for charity and cash donations. Please put it in your diary and wait for news.

Christmas Cancelled – Well, Not Quite

Whilst we cannot have the nativity in its usual form and the Christmas service is off, we are intending to put some things on this year to make up for it and intend to broadcast them on Zoom. So watch this space next half term for more details.

On top of that, we do intend to have our Christmas lunch and parties though the numbers will be smaller – and quieter! We are even hoping that special visitors may find time to pay us a visit as Christmas approaches.

Assembly for those self-isolating.

If your children are missing school because they are having to self-isolate then you are welcome to attend our Tuesday and Friday's assemblies using the following Zoom links. Please keep your microphones turned off if you do join us.

Tuesday 20th Oct @ 09.30 - Story Assembly.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81684494795?pwd=TTVXY2hPTVBiRlc2S0YwWmdMS0dXUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 8449 4795 Passcode: dCMg28

May move back to 09.15 if playground development doesn't start.

Looking Back

Mindfulness Monday

Well done to our winners of our Mindfulness Monday competition winners for their fantastic Halloween (or fruit) designs. Next week we are looking to run a quiz so make sure your children get lots of rest so that they can win points for their school teams!

Rules, Regulations and Reminders

Food and Tuck

Can I remind parents that we have several members of the school, both staff and children, with allergies to nuts. For that reason we ask parents to stick to our **NUT FREE SCHOOL** ambition and to avoid all nut confectionary and similar. The most common problem we find are Nutella sandwiches. We reserve the right to remove any nut based items from children's lunchboxes if we see them.

Uniform and Labels

Uniform goes missing in every school. Children find the most ingenious places to hide clothing which is then picked up by someone else – often from another class. This is true for plimsolls, coats, T shirts, hats scarves and gloves as well as jumpers. Putting a name on the labels and checking frequently to make sure it hasn't washed off helps lost property find its way home. So please:

Put a label on clothes, especially gloves and hats and check them regularly to make sure we can see them.

As always, I will always do my best to speak to you about any concerns you may have on the day so please feel free to approach me, either on the playground or book an appointment if you prefer.



Mr B Wilken

Other Information Sources and Signposts

DfE daily update summary for week

Guidance for clinically extremely vulnerable people:

The Department of Health and Social Care has provided new [guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable \(CEV\) from coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). The guidance is less restrictive than previous shielding guidance and includes advice at each Local COVID Alert Level.

What does this mean for clinically extremely vulnerable pupils?

- clinically extremely vulnerable pupils should continue to attend education settings at all Local COVID Alert Levels
- a very small number of pupils or students under paediatric care (such as recent transplant or very immunosuppressed children) who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend school, should not attend. Absence for this reason can be recorded in the attendance register as: 'not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19)'. Remote education should be provided immediately.

In the future, formal shielding advice will only be reintroduced in some, but not all, very high alert level areas (level 3), based on advice from the Chief Medical Officer. In this event, the government will write to people separately to inform them if they are advised to shield.

REMINDER from last week's newsletter - School Outbreak Plans

Every day we have around half a dozen staff and/or pupils off because they are displaying symptoms. At times this can be over a dozen, at other times just two or three. Every case so far has come back negative and I hope that remains so. However, it is probably worth noting the following:

- We are unlikely to find out that a person is positive for Covid at a convenient time of day – when parents can have a few hours to make plans and organise childcare. Knowing life, it will be at the most awkward time for all! It is very possible we will get a confirmation at 09.10 on a Tuesday morning just as parents are starting to get to work and children have poured into school.
- As soon as we have a positive confirmation that someone in a specific class has tested positive, we will immediately quarantine that room and send a message for you to come and pick your child up. That message will also tell you where to go.
The children will remain in class, either learning or doing some form of other task. No one will be allowed out of the classroom (incl staff) except for the toilet – which will be cleaned after each visit.
We understand you may be half way to Birmingham or on a train and we recognise that you may have difficulty arranging pick up. We do ask that you give us your best endeavour but we shall keep your child in the classroom until someone arrives. If you arrange for "Aunty Sarah" to pick up – please let the school know. Remember – the quicker you pick up the less chance your child has of catching it.
- Your child should bring home a letter explaining the school policy regarding returning to school. In a nutshell it's to stay off for 14 days from that date, regardless of test results or advice from others. But the letter will have further information.
- By the next morning (or earlier depending on the timings) your child will have work on Dojo. Your class teacher will be posting work for the full 14 days of isolation. Should it be the teacher who is ill, someone will replace them. Some teachers may have a folder with work but it is not always possible to do that. Each class may be different.
- The common areas (such as entrance, corridors, etc) will be disinfected immediately and frequently. The classroom will be locked off and disinfected.

Hopefully we'll never have to test this. Fingers crossed.

Attachments

- Family Hub Emergency Grant for Food.