

Wildmoor Heath School Newsletter



Issue Number 12

Thursday, 16th June 2021

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you and your family well and staying safe. Mr Phelps and I are both happy to be back in school fully – it is wonderful to be back with the children and staff.

UPDATE ON THE CV19 VIRUS AND GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

I wish to share with you the latest news and the ways in which it affects our school operations. Following the UK government's announcement to delay the Roadmap easing of restrictions for one month, we have received an important information briefing from Bracknell Forest Council, which directly affects local schools. There are outbreaks of the delta variant virus in our surrounding areas covering Owlsmoor, Sandhurst, Wokingham and East Berkshire, meaning that local cases per 100,000 are well ahead of national and rising rapidly in some age groups. Surge testing is taking place in all local schools this week, affecting only the staff in primary schools.

BFC have worked closely with the government sources and PHE to draw up a number of protective measures to reduce the potential spread of infection. This essentially eliminates visits to schools by anyone who is not a regular member of the school's support team. We are restricting visitors to the school site to only those regular visitors, already in our bubbles, including parental volunteers and teachers such as Mrs Peake who teaches French. No transition visits can take place to secondary schools; I await information from our secondary schools to confirm their arrangements for transition for the current Year 6 cohort. This will also affect new Reception families who cannot visit the school for transition days/events. Similarly, parents and carers will not be allowed on any school site for the purpose of Sports Days, etc. This is clearly disappointing, however very understandable in the context of the pandemic and we support fully the need to prevent infection.

Schools have been instructed to maintain the 'bubbles' more carefully than ever. Hence, we will hold our Sports Days in individual classes. School outings and residential trips will continue, providing they are not in mixed year groups, which clearly does not affect our pupils at Wildmoor Heath. This week's Year 6 day trips went ahead and the forthcoming Year 4 day to Ufton Court will proceed as planned. At this stage, I remain confident that the September 2021 residential trip to Rhos-Y Gwaliau will proceed as planned, unless further directive are issued in the coming months.

We will continue, whether children are in school or on outings, to reinforce the need for frequent hand cleansing, use of sanitizer and maintenance of good space between children and others.

RECEPTION CHILDREN STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2021

We are so disappointed that we will not be able to go ahead with the family picnic planned for our new Reception class families on Wednesday, 30th June 2021. We were really looking forward to meeting everyone in a relaxing setting. The Reception team, led by Mrs Joseph, has produced and issued to our new families a number of useful welcome/ orientation presentations, plus summer activities for your child. Materials included a virtual tour of the school. If you did not receive these materials, or require another copy, please contact the school office: Mrs Attfield, 01344 772034 or secretary@wildmoorheath.org.uk. Mrs Joseph and her team will be organising home visits for all of our new Reception pupils for week commencing 6th September 2021. She will contact you families in the next few weeks to confirm your allocated visit time.

REMINDER THAT ATTENDANCE IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT

Class	Attendance
Reception	97%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	98%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	98%
TOTAL	97%

We are extremely pleased with the high level of attendance across the school, which stands at 97%. We know that this is contributing towards children's learning and helping them to catch up on lost learning and make rapid progress.

I wish to remind you that full school attendance remains a legal requirement for all children unless your child is ill or required to self-isolate. This means that I am unable to authorise absence due to family holidays/ extended weekends. I appreciate that many of us have had to cancel holidays and availability for rebooking may be limited. However, I believe firmly that children should not miss any more schooling and Wildmoor Heath will uphold this fully.

NEW CLASS TEACHERS for 2021/2022

The senior leadership team have been working hard to confirm the best placements for the teaching team for next year. There have been a few changes. Firstly, Miss Thompson has decided to leave us and move on to explore new opportunities. We have enjoyed having Miss Thompson as a valuable member of her team and I would like to thank her for her dedication to Wildmoor Heath over the past few years. Our student teacher Miss Riches will be taking up a full time position in a local school, Hatch Ride. We wish Miss Thompson and Miss Riches every success in her future career.

Miss Barrass will be joining our team as a full-time teacher and will move up with her class into Year 4. Please join me in congratulating Miss Barrass on this appointment. Mrs MacManus will increase her days with the school, taking on responsibility as our Interventions teacher. This is a well-deserved and significant appointment.

I am pleased to confirm that the teaching and learning staff for next year will be as follows:

CLASS	TEACHER	LEARNING SUPPORT STAFF
Reception	Mrs Joseph Student Teacher: Miss Church	Mrs Smith Mrs Gray Miss Davis
Year 1	Mrs Dalton	Miss Grove
Year 2	Miss Smith	Miss Dyes
Year 3	Mr Thomas Mrs Foxley	Mrs Osman Mr Jackson
Year 4	Miss Barrass	Miss Clements Mrs Owens
Year 5	Mr Phelps	Mrs Thurgood
Year 6	Mrs Vincent	Mrs Muttitt
PPA/Release Cover Teacher in Years 1, 2, 4 and 5	Mrs Leach Mrs Hamer	
Years 3 to 6 French	Mrs Peake	Class staff
Forest Schools Teacher	Mrs Holt	
Inclusion Team	Mrs MacManus Special Needs Coordinator (SENDCo)	Mrs Thurgood Emotional Literacy Support Advisor (ELSA)
Interventions Teacher	Mrs MacManus	

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2021-2022

I attach the new School Calendar for 2021-2022, which reflects an additional day of holiday declared by the government. The previous week, we are on half term during the two Diamond Jubilee Bank Holidays so this day is to make the extra Bank Holiday up to teachers.

LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT

In a bid to keep our air clean and to protect the environment, we would like to remind parents who drive their children to and from school to please switch off their engines while they are waiting for the children, this will help protect our air quality and is a good lesson for the children too.

DISCOUNTED BRASS LESSONS

If you have a budding musician in the family, Berkshire Maestros are offering half price lessons for the rest of the summer term. More information, together with contact details can be found in the attached flyer.

SUMMER HOCKEY OPPORTUNITIES

Our Year 5 children have been enjoying the benefits hockey training with a Reading Hockey Club coach. The coach is running summer opportunities locally and is inviting children in Year 2 to 5 to sign up for these sessions. There is also the opportunity for free sessions and details can be found on the attached flyers. The Coach is interested in running an after school hockey club in September, if you would like to register your interest, please let the school office know.

Year 5 Girls Demonstrate Their Skills

I have been so impressed with the gymnastic skills of our Year 5 girls over the past two weeks. Spending time on the field, they have demonstrated to me their considerable skills in handstands, cartwheels, round-offs and artistic jumps. They have most impressed me by their teamwork, choreographing their own routine by working together to ensure everyone in the group uses their skills. I filmed a short video of the team and will upload it to our website during the next update.



As ever, please contact us via the school office with any ideas or queries you may have, and write directly to your class teacher if you have questions about your child's learning. Please visit our school website for general information, to view our wide range of assemblies and well-being resources for families. The latest Celebration Assembly is loaded weekly for you to view at home with your children. We thank you for continued support of the school and your child's education.

Best regards,



Leslie Semper
Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

**MRS SEMPER, MR THOMAS, MRS JOHNSON,
MR PHELPS AND MRS THURGOOD**

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

1. Protecting children from maltreatment;
2. Preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
3. Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
4. Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

At Wildmoor Heath School, **all staff maintain a culture of vigilance** and put the health and safety, learning progress and pastoral needs of our learners first. We have robust safeguarding procedures in place, including annual formal training for all plus ongoing informal updates.

Wildmoor Heath has five trained DSLs who receive multi-agency training, attend ongoing formative sessions and represent the school at Child Protection meetings.

Mrs Semper is the Designated Safety Leader (DSL), supported by Mr Thomas, Mrs Johnson, Mr Phelps and Mrs Thurgood as the Deputy Designated Safety Leaders (DDSLs).

Our Safeguarding Policy (date September 2020), together with a Covid-19 Addendum Policy, can be found on the school website and/or a copy can be requested from the school office.

If you have any concerns whatsoever about a child, or something that you have witnessed inside or outside of school, please ask to speak to Mrs Semper, Mr. Thomas, Mrs Johnson, Mr Phelps or Mrs Thurgood.

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REACH FOR THE STARS ★★
Respect - Empathy - Aspirations - Courage - Honesty