

24th September 2020

Thursday Update Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

In school, our staff and children continue to work hard to keep each other safe. Last week we introduced new lunch times and we have now seen a reduction in the impact on learning time. These timings have also made sure that everyone has enough time to eat their lunch. We are extremely grateful to Petworth Marquees for lending us a space that means that we can continue to make lunch times work effectively for the whole school.

This week the government announced a wave of new actions that everyone in England needs to take in order to limit the spread of Covid-19. We talked about them in our assembly and while very few of them impact on children (I don't expect we have many children in the pubs at 10pm!) we did talk about The Rule of Six and how it worked.

These new rules can feel "over the top" to some and it can feel like Covid-19 is a million miles away because we haven't seen much of an impact in our community. However, on the new NHS Test and Trace App the postcode RH14 is described as medium risk as the number of cases is rising.

Plaistow Park

I understand that recently, the park on Plaistow Green has been very crowded on a number of occasions after school I am very aware that people are not breaking The Rule of Six; however, when the park is very crowded there is a very real risk that if someone were infected and asymptomatic that a large number of children and adults could be infected. If this were the case then there is a high chance that a number of classes/bubbles would need to self-isolate for 14 days.

In school, we have worked hard to maintain our "bubbles" and limit the opportunities for them to come into contact so that when we have a confirmed case at school we are able to limit those who are affected. If you and your family do want to visit the park and it is busy, please consider coming back when it is quieter, this will help all of our staff, children and community stay healthy and safe.

There are no active changes we are making to our routines this week. As the weather becomes more Autumnal, it would be extremely helpful to our children, staff and other families that you only arrive for pick up during your scheduled time. The queue does become held up if we have parents waiting for older children to come out before they are due to be on the playground.

Please can we also request that your child remembers to bring a coat to school each day and if they have a packed lunch, to also bring it with them at the start of the day.

Additionally: Attached to this letter is a letter sent from the Department for Education and NHS. It details what symptoms to lookout for in relation to Covid-19 and who in your household may require a test. It also details how you may obtain a test if necessary.

A NHS website symptom checker can also be found here: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

NHS Test and Trace App: This was released today. In addition to making it easier to "check in" at locations, it has a symptom checklist and will tell you what the risk level relating to Covid-19 in your areas is.

For more information or links to download the app please go to this website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/the-nhs-app/>





Flu Vaccines: The school nurses will be visiting the school on **Friday 23rd October 2020**. Forms were sent home with all children last week. Thank you to all our families who have returned their completed form. It is essential that all forms are completed and returned, even if you do not wish your child to take part in the vaccination programme. We have attached a PDF of the form if you don't have yours to hand. Please ensure all forms are returned to the school by Monday 28th September 2020.

Google Classroom Update: Tomorrow I will be sending out another letter. This letter will contain the Google Classroom codes for Years One to Six. If your child hasn't signed up to their new class, this code will help them to do so. They will then be able to access their spelling homework and, if they are self-isolating, their remote learning.

Thank you as always for your continued support in keeping our school and community safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mr King", is written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Mr King