



WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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13th March 2020

Weekly Update

Dear Parents

I hope that you have had a busy and enjoyable week. The children have enjoyed a wealth of additional activities including a special Science assembly led by Mrs Newell on Wednesday, a number of Science Workshops, Take One Picture and Sports Relief. We have raised £442 so far for this great cause, so thank you.

As you no doubt have seen on the news last night, the Government has increased its measures against the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus, in line with its plan to delay any spread.

To briefly recap for those who may not have seen the news, the additional measures announced at this stage are:

- Anyone with a persistent cough or high temperature should immediately self-isolate for seven days;
- Only those admitted to hospital will be tested;
- From Friday, all school trips abroad will be banned;
- Older people with pre-existing conditions should avoid going on cruises.

At school, we continue to maintain the highest standards of hygiene, and we are following the Government DfE and Public Health England guidance, including increased hand washing and hygiene measures. This means we are asking pupils, staff and visitors to wash their hands (or using alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water are not available):

- Before leaving home (*please encourage this*)
- On arrival at school
- After using the toilet
- After breaks and sporting activities
- Before food preparation
- Before eating food, including snacks
- Before leaving school

All clubs have been informed to follow these increased measures. The cleaning company have increased their control measures in line with PHE guidelines, including washing all door knobs, hand rails and surfaces with the recommended anti- bacterial cleaning products on a daily basis.

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Can I please ask in the current circumstances you support us in following the latest Public Health England guidance in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. If your child is unwell, showing signs of general fever, vomiting, diarrhoea or symptomatic of COVID -19, that you advise school in the normal way and keep your child at home until they are fit to return to school, following NHS and Public Health England guidance.

We continue to follow the latest Government guidance for COVID-19 for educational settings along with guidance from Public Health England.

If you have concerns regarding Coronavirus, you are encouraged to go online:

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>.

For detailed information from the NHS go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Educational Visits and Residential Trips

After careful consideration, we have taken the decision to cancel all day educational visits until further notice. This also includes the Year 4 trip next week to Gunnersbury Park Museum. The priority for this school is to maintain the smooth and efficient running of the school, so far as possible. Priority is always given to pupil, parent and staff welfare, listening to our community and maintaining appropriate staffing levels.

You will be aware from the national news that all international school trips have been banned. Therefore, the Year 5 trip to France has been cancelled. We will provide further details on the consequences of this to Year 5 parents directly ASAP.

We are currently reviewing the Year 6 residential trip to Wales. We will update and communicate with Year 6 parents separately on this as soon as we can.

Please do be assured that staff will do their best to arrange and ensure an array of other exciting school based activities, for the children to enjoy during this period.

Refunds and reimbursements

For one day educational visits which have already been booked and paid for, we are unlikely to be able to obtain any refunds (although we are reviewing the situation for pending bookings). The situation regarding the residential trips will be addressed directly in due course with parents.

Sports Events and competitions

Merton Strategic Sports Partnership are following the advice of PHE. Inter school competitions are continuing to take place at present. Events are being re-risk assessed on a rolling basis, and additional hygiene measures are in place. We are keeping the school's position under active review.

PTA / Friends Events

Whilst we are in the delay phase, PTA events, including Quiz Night, the Easter Egg Hunt and The Triathlon/Zumbathon events have been postponed. The Friends will provide an update in the near future.

Business Continuity

I want to reassure you that the school has had a Business Continuity Plan in place since the onset of COVID-19 which we continue to update regularly, in conjunction with the Governing Body.

We are committed to ensure that if the school closes we will be able to continue to support learning from a virtual learning environment. Much active work is going on, including on IT systems, behind the scenes at present on this. With this in mind, please do ensure the school has your up to date contact details, including the correct email addresses.

We are in daily liaison with the appropriate authorities, including Public Health England and the local authority, and will continue to ensure we take their advice. In addition, we have been very

lucky to be able to draw on the support and considerable expertise of two specialist consultant doctors from amongst the parent body.

Parent Forum with Governors – 1st April 2020

The Governing Body will be holding a Forum for parents on Wednesday 1st April 2020 (at 8.50am, and also an evening session at 7.15pm) which will provide an opportunity for parents to discuss these issues (and others) with Governors.

We realise that this is a worrying time for everyone, but please be assured that we are doing all we can and following all PHE guidance. I will continue to keep in close communication with you and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Kindest Regards

Jill