

WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Merton Hall Road Wimbledon London, SW19 3QB

T: +44 (0)20 8542 1413 E: wcps@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk W: www.wimbledonchaseschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr. K. Ellis B.Ed. (Hons.), M.A. (Education)

Friday 28th January 2022

Dear Parents,

The children have been working hard at school and enjoying the winter weather over the last couple of weeks, although there have been COVID-19 challenges for some families.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Earlier this week I wrote to you regarding the latest updates from the government on moving back to Plan A, new isolation procedures and how this is put into practice at school.

Our positive cases at school have continued to increase this week so we have now put 'bubbling' measures in place for the whole school. We are in regular contact with the borough's Infection Protection Control (IPC) team who inform us that our situation is not unusual in Merton at the moment as there are currently 34 active outbreaks in education settings across the borough.

The 'bubbling' measures in place include:

- The children play in zoned areas at break and lunchtime
- The children eat in their class groups
- The children are dismissed and collected from designated areas in the playground
- The children wash their hands regularly throughout the day and use hand sanitiser
- The classrooms are frequently ventilated throughout the day
- Antibacterial spray continues to be used to clean touch points and desks throughout the day
- PE is being taught outside as much as possible.

We aim to keep these measures in place for two weeks to try and contain the spread of the virus as much as possible.

Testing

It is important for families to continue to test regularly at home. Thank you to all who have had to support their children at home after a confirmed positive test. Completing the Google Form that is sent out once a child has a confirmed positive result is very important and essential to us as we have to report every case to the borough as well as track return to school dates.

Remote Learning

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A quick reminder that if your child is having to self-isolate at home and is well enough, there is remote learning for them on our Virtual School. The teachers regularly update the content so that it links (as much as is possible) to the learning in school. If you have problems accessing the Virtual School, please do contact the school office for help.

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PARENT MEETINGS



Due to the increase in the current positive cases at school and after advice from Merton Public Health, we will be holding the forthcoming IESP and Parent Consultations virtually. Information on how to book a consultation meeting will be sent out next week.

IESP meetings are being held on the week of **Monday 7th February** [3.30– 5.00pm]. If your child has an IESP (this includes children with an EHCP) then you will be able to make your appointment via our online booking system from <u>next</u> Tuesday [information to follow].

Parent Consultations are after half term on Wednesday 23rd February [3.30pm – 7.30pm] and Thursday 24th February (3.30pm - 6.30pm).

We really hope that these meetings will be the last that we have to hold entirely virtually.

DATES, WORKSHOPS & INSET DAYS

Our forthcoming events have been **updated on the school website** (please click) as well as on the Parent SIMSApp. They include upcoming workshops for parents as well as details of any trips that have been organised for classes.

Our recent workshop run by Mrs Baines & Mr Surkitt on What is Oracy & why we teach it at Wimbledon Chase was well attended. If you missed the workshop and are interested in how we are developing oracy at school then you can find the slides on the school website on our <u>Parent</u> Workshops page.



SAFER INTERNET WORKSHOPS

Safer Internet Day is coming up on Tuesday 8th February and we will be discussing online safety with the children in class and in assemblies. There will also be a Years 1-6 Safer Internet Workshop (virtual) for parents at 9.15am next Friday 4th February. We will send the link out to parents via the Parent SIMS App next Wednesday.



We realise that parents often have to increasingly deal with online safety with their children nowadays and that children are often tempted to sign up for games or online Apps or Websites that are aimed at older children.

We have many resources to support parents with this on our <u>Online</u> <u>Safety page</u> on our website including resources that can show you the recommended ages for many games. We have recently added some parent information and support for the game Fortnite that many children now play and which is aimed at children of 12 years old and above. <u>Please follow this link if you would like</u> <u>information on Fortnite</u>.

INSET DAYS

Looking ahead to the next academic year, please note in your diaries that the first 2 scheduled days back will be staff **INSET days** on **Thursday 1st September and Friday 2nd September**. The Autumn term will start on **Monday 5th September** for most children (Nursery & Reception dates to be confirmed).

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL (RRS) AMBASSADORS

Our **RRS Ambassadors** took part in a virtual meeting with the RRS Ambassadors from Dundonald School this week. The meeting was a question and answer session which shared advice on topics such as how to carry out class and school charters, how to promote RRS, how RRS helps equality and other topics such as using peer mediators effectively and running anti-bullying initiatives. It was a very productive meeting and it was enjoyable to work with another school.

PARKING

We have had some complaints again from some local residents about parents dropping off their children at the end of the roads that come up to Chase alley. Please do remember that, with a letter from the school office placed on car dashboard, parents can park in Avebury Road whilst children are taken into school and that no parking tickets should be issued.

DOGS

A polite reminder to keep dogs calm and under control outside the school grounds at drop off and pick up times (no dogs in the school grounds please) as unfortunately, it was reported to us this week that a child was bitten by a dog when coming into school. Thank you for your cooperation.

WOODWIND











YOUNG ARTISTS ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER SHOW 2022

We had many young artists who entered the Young Artists Royal Academy Summer Show 2021. The 2022 event is now open for entries. Parents can submit their children's work if they wish to enter (work can be submitted by creating an account and selecting Wimbledon Chase Primary School). <u>Please follow this link</u> for more information.



MERTON LIVE!



If you are looking for something to do on Sunday 6th February then you may well be interested in **Merton Live!** This is a great community charity event which gives everyone the opportunity to attend Wimbledon Theatre at a very low cost. <u>Please follow</u> <u>this link for more information</u>.

BMM HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CAMP

BMM Sports Coaching will be running a half-term holiday camp again at Wimbledon Chase this half term. <u>Please follow this link if</u> you would like to book up.

Have a great weekend.

Best wishes

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Mr. K. Ellis Headteacher

