



Hughenden Primary School

Working together, Empowering Lives, Enriching Minds

Newsletter – September 2020

SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parents,

Apologies for the lateness of this Newsletter, it's been an extremely busy start to the term.

We would like to welcome you all back to another exciting term and school year at Hughenden and extend a warm welcome to all our new pupils, parents and new staff that have joined us this term.

I hope you all enjoyed a restful Summer break after the difficult Spring and Summer term following the Covid 19 pandemic. Staff in school have worked hard to ensure our school risk assessments remain updated and robust to manage a full return to school for all children this term. We understand there will be some anxiety and plans are in place to support both parents and children – please do contact us if you have any concerns.

In line with our Covid Risk Assessment, we are unable to allow parents into the school building for the foreseeable future to ensure we reduce the footprint coming into school. Staff will be on duty outside to help with any queries and alleviate any worries or concerns. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Having been back at school for 2 weeks now, we want to highlight a number of issues that are concerning us. The safety of our children and families remains our highest priority.

We have noticed an increased number of parents using the turning circle without permission - this has never been permitted and unless you have a disabled sticker or permit from the office we would ask you not to enter the site. We really do not want to have to close the gate or check everybody coming in and we appreciate your support in keeping road safety at the top of the agenda.

We ask you to park respectfully in the neighbouring roads and where possible, park further afield and use our School Crossing Patroller who is on duty at the beginning and end of every day.

We are doing our best to stagger the collection times at the end of the day - this will only work if all parents keep to the times we have stated - arriving on time and leaving the school site promptly. Social distancing remains extremely important and will work if parents collect and leave without stopping to talk. With the increasing Covid infection rate, face coverings are strongly advised for all adults with effect from Monday.

Hoppers, Foundation, Year 5 and 6 - 3pm Years 1 and 2 - 3.10pm Years 3 and 4 - 3.20
Children in years 5 and 6 can collect younger siblings in years 3 and 4 to reduce waiting times further - please email the school office so we are aware and can ensure children are ready to leave. Children won't be released with siblings unless you have informed us.

Siblings in Years 1 and 2 can come out with the earliest timing of the sibling, ie: 3pm or 3.10pm depending in year group but please do keep emailing us so we can relay this information to each class to help make this work efficiently.

It is important for children to continue their home learning using our online activities: RM Easimaths, TT Rockstars and Nifty, etc - this is essential as handwashing and hygiene procedures is time consuming when done well and it's unavoidable that it will eat into the school day.

We have also been advised to remind all parents of the potential implications of travel over half term as the number of cases in Europe is continuing to rise. It is likely that quarantining will be in place for a number of countries.

Getting a Covid Test

If you need to book a Covid 19 test, please follow this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please keep us informed and forward your results for our records as soon as they become available.

Attendance Email address

We are pleased to be able to inform you that we have set up a new email account for parents to use primarily to inform us of any sickness or absences for your child/ren including appointments you need to take children out of school for. We still have the school message service available but this is a useful back up instead of emailing the office email account. This is in use with immediate effect. The email address is: attendance@hughendenprimary.co.uk

Extra-Curricular Clubs

The Clubs Timetable for the Autumn Term is on the school website under: Clubs/Clubs Timetable and is updated termly to provide you with all the information you need. Details on how to book and pay are instructed on the timetable. More clubs will be added as the term progresses in line with our Covid risk assessment. Currently, all clubs are being held outside only.

Wrap Around Care – new Provider: Sports4kids

We are pleased to be working with Sports4kids as our new wrap around care provider from September. To find out more information please go to the school website and look at the Wrap Around Care tab. This will give you all the pricing structure and access to their online booking and payment system.

We already work closely with Sports4kids coaches as they provide our PE classes in school – this further reinforces our good working relationship with them.

My Maths

MyMaths can be used on Android and Apple tablet devices through the free Puffin Academy app. The app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or from the Apple App Store. Please note that Amazon have not made the app available for their Fire tablet.

It is our aim to make MyMaths accessible via tablets, and our work to move away from Flash based content will allow us to do this. In the meantime, for the most seamless experience we recommend using MyMaths using a desktop PC or laptop. Find out more about our work to move MyMaths away from Flash on our [support site](#).

School Crossing Patrol

The School Crossing Patrol team are currently recruiting for patrollers – if you are interested in applying please contact Georgina Longley for further information. This is a part time role or can simply be to provide

cover or relief work and is a vital part of our children's school day. Direct: Dial: 01494 586639 - email: glongley@buckscc.gov.uk

Dolce Hot Lunches

The new Autumn Term menu is available on the school website under the 'Hot School Meals' tab. If you need a reminder of your login details, please ask the school office for these so that you can order your child/ren's meals online in advance. Please note that for the Autumn Term, we have remained with sandwich style lunches and children will eat in their classrooms. We will review this again at half term. If you pay for your child's lunches, please ensure there are sufficient funds on the account. If you believe your child is entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office to get an application form.

Parking at drop off and pick up

As you will have been aware Y5 and Y6 pupils in KS2 have been leaving school by themselves at the end of the day and walking to an agreed pick up place.

As the whole school returns in September we want to open this up to Y4 to Y6. We do not have the space for parents of older children to enter the site. Please let the office know if you wish a younger pupil to walk out of school with an older sibling.

Please can you discuss the appropriate pick up place with your child. Popular locations are Orchard Close, Friars Gardens and the Village Hall.

If you are making use of the Village Hall parking, please do try and support our Community Shop at the same time.

As a school we work hard to reduce congestion and traffic pollution in the local areas and as our school continues to grow, we are aware that pollution levels are increasing. We are, once again, asking for your help in the following ways and to make you aware of a few facts:

- Please switch off your engines while waiting for the children
- Pollution from engines affects us all and can exacerbate ongoing health issues such as asthma
- It is **illegal** to sit in a parked car with the engine running
- It is an obstruction to park within 10 metres of any corner.

Only parents with Parking Permits issued by the school can drive onto the school site. Please make use of the valuable crossing patrol or park at the Village Hall and walk to the school. Further information was emailed to all parents this week which can also be found on our school website under 'Important Information'.

Crocodile Trail – we will update you when this is re-starting

Unfortunately, we are unable to confirm when the Crocodile Trail will restart – we have to be mindful of the class bubbles and stay within our Covid Risk Assessment. An update will follow when we are able to restart this service.

School Prospectus

Our newly updated school prospectus will soon be available to view on the school website under 'About Our School'. See below for information on our Open Days.

Open Days for Prospective Parents

Due to the current restrictions, we are unable to hold our Open Days in school this year following advice from the Council. Applications for school places open in November 2020 and close in January 2021.

Secondary Transfer Testing – Year 6

Following the letter sent out previously from The Buckinghamshire Grammar Schools, we are writing to clarify the school arrangements for children sitting their transfer tests this year.

Children who are sitting the transfer test will sit their practice paper on Tuesday 3rd November. They will sit the actual test on the Thursday 5th November.

We are aware that Tuesday 3rd November is a school inset day. However, we will open only for the Year 6 children who are sitting the test so they can sit their practice test uninterrupted, as is our normal practice.

Children should come to school for 9am on both days. Children will be ready to be collected on Tuesday 3rd November by 11am. Please make arrangements for children to either walk home or be collected bearing in mind there will be no crossing patroller available at that time.

If your child isn't sitting the transfer test, then they do not need to be in school on Tuesday 3rd November. If you have any concerns, please email the school office.

Meet the Teacher

All class teachers are preparing a short video to introduce themselves, this will be posted to each class page via Eschools for you to see and should be available within the next week or so. Should you need to contact your child's class teacher at any point, please email the school office who will forward your message on your behalf. Teachers will no longer be replying to messages sent directly to them through Eschools – thank you.

Parents Evening

We are currently awaiting guidance from the DfE on this – more information will follow when guidance becomes available.

Harvest Festival

Unfortunately, as with other planned events, our Harvest Festival this year will be held in school in class bubbles via Zoom. We hope to involve the Church too remotely. Donations for One Can Trust forms part of this and more details will be sent out soon. Unfortunately, we can't allow parents to join us on this occasion.

School Nursing Team – Monday 23rd November – Flu vaccination Clinic

All children in school will receive their flu vaccination. The school nursing team will provide us with details 3 weeks prior to this with an online link for you to give your consent for this to take place. Please await further details.

School Trips

Following guidance from Buckinghamshire Council, all school trips that require coach transport, or are taking place indoors, are on hold until further guidance is made available.

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Friday 25 th September	Year 3 to Hughenden Park – letter to follow
W/C 26th October 2020	Half Term
23 rd November 2020	School Nursing Team – Flu Vaccinations – Foundation –Year 6 inclusive
18 th December 2020	Last Day of Term, 1.30pm finish