

NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL

Friday 03 September 2021

Newsletter 1 **September 2021 Return**

After a busy summer of work on site and two highly productive inset days, we very much look forward to opening to our community once again on Monday 6 September.

Due to ongoing projects, **access to and from school will initially need to be via the main entrance.** We ask you all set off in plenty of time, walk to school if you can, or park some distance away from the site and walk from there.

The triple mobile classrooms will be safe and ready to use, with access for Year 3 being via the main steps at the front only but finishing work will continue to the triple mobile roof for at least one more week.

In addition, depending on the availability of materials, the Goose Green Close entrance will be needed by contractors working on resurfacing the trim trail.

Our new Covid control measures will be shared with contractors and our updated Covid Risk assessment is attached for your information.

Organisation

- Attendance at school is mandatory for all pupils
- All pupils able to enter their classes via the external doors from 8.40 AM.
- Registers will be taken at 8.50 AM, and all pupils will be released at 3.00 PM
- Year groups will no longer need to be organised in 'bubbles'
- Y3 will go swimming in the Autumn Term
- All pupils will wear their PE kit to school on their PE days – teachers will let you know the PE day/s for your child/ren
- Year group emails will continue to be available and should be your first point of contact with teachers
- Pupils will use the toilets before break and lunch
- We will continue to provide resource packs for every pupil
- Additional first aid will be available in playgrounds
- Hand cleaning will continue on entry to class in the morning and after break and lunch
- Our additional cleaning schedule will remain, as will our attention to ventilation
- Many of our younger pupils lack experience of large assemblies, so there will be a sensitive, phased return to our whole school assembly schedule
- Hot meals will be available to all year groups and key stage 2 (Years 3 – 6) can book a meal at www.mealselector.co.uk
- School trips can now go ahead as long as there is adequate financial protection in place, as well as a full risk assessment.
- It is possible for some after school clubs for Y2 – 6 to take place and our offer will be with you shortly
- We await confirmation of 2021 – 22 national assessments (SATs)

Covid Symptoms

Following guidance, pupils and staff should not come into school if they have symptoms or other reasons requiring them to stay at home, such as a requirement to quarantine. If anyone at school shows symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and they should follow public health advice. Pupils will be isolated until they are collected. Staff and pupils with a positive Lateral Flow Test should self-isolate in line with the 'Stay at Home' guidance and will require a PCR test. They will need to self-isolate whilst awaiting the PCR test. All schools will take the decision to refuse entry to a pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it may be necessary to protect others. Apologies in advance if this applies to your family in the future, but I am sure that you understand that it is necessary for us to play on the safe side to avoid a possible wider closure that would result if there was a local outbreak. Any school closure of any type will be taken following PHE advice and will be a last resort.

A useful DfE return to school guidance for parents/s/carer/s is attached for your information.

Thresholds for seeking support – information

The DfE's Covid Contingency Framework (where operational changes will be required) sets out that for most education and childcare settings, the thresholds for consideration of escalation are (whichever comes first):

- 10% of children, pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period (for example 3 children/staff in a class of 30 would meet the threshold), or
- 5 children, pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely (for example in a sports team), test positive* for Covid-19 within a 10-day period
- In all settings at least one of cases has to be PCR confirmed positive

Self-Isolation and Home Learning

We will support those pupils who need to self-isolate because they have tested positive for Covid – 19 to work from home if they are well enough to do so. Our Remote Learning Policy is attached for your information and schools have been asked to continue to deliver remote education for the next academic year where necessary.

In addition, whilst we hope that we never need to use it, our Outbreak Management Plan is attached for your information, too.

Class Assemblies

These will take place on Thursdays from 9.05 AM in the hall with entrance via the rear doors. Siblings under school age will be collected for a crèche during the assembly. Please let us know the day before if you will bring a baby with you, as we will need to provide 1:1 care.

Year 4 will perform class assemblies this term as below:

21 October Year 4 Larch

11 November Year 4 Lime

Reception

As ever, we simply cannot wait to help YR settle in for their first year at North Heath. Their phased induction over the next couple of weeks and 1:1 conversations with parents will offer all the

opportunity to settle in safely and confidently. YR start in newly decorated rooms with brand new technology and resources to support the new YR curriculum. Exciting times, and we welcome you all.

Dates

Below are some other dates for your diary:

September 2021

2 and 3 Inset Days

6 Y6 to Fairthorne

23 6.00 PM Y6 Fairthorne Assembly to parent/s/carer/s only

October

12 1.30 – YR Parents’ Afternoon 1

3.30 – 6.00 – Parents’ Evening 1

14 Class Photos

1.30 – YR Parents’ Afternoon 2

4.00 – 7.00 – Parents’ Evening 2

19 Harvest Festival

20 – 22 Y5 to Sayers Croft

25 – 29 HALF TERM

November

10 AM – YR – 6 Flu Injections (Hall)

18 6.30 – Y5 Sayers Croft Assembly to parent/s/carer/s only

19 Children in Need

December

6 9.30 – Y1/2 to Grandparents, siblings

7 9.30 – Y1/2 to Elder/Chestnut parents

8 9.30 – Y1/2 to Silver Birch/Oak parents

13 9.30 – Y3/4 to Grandparents, siblings

14 9.30 – YR to grandparents, siblings

6.00 – Y3/4 to Willow/Larch parents

15 9.30 – YR to parents

1.30 – Y5/6 to grandparents

6.00 – Y3/4 to Hazel/Lime parents

16 6.30 – Y5/6 to parents – venue to be agreed

17 Last day of Autumn Term

18/12 – 3/1 Christmas Holiday

January 2022

4 Inset Day

5 Pupil return

With so much planned already, we feel well set to make the most of the new parameters set for schools this academic year. I’m sure you will join us in wishing for as smooth a journey as possible and we thank you all in advance for playing your part.

Kind regards

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Headteacher