



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Newsletter 18. 26th March 2021

The DfE has asked schools to continue with contact tracing over Easter, similar to the arrangements over Christmas:

1. Staff and parents/carers of pupils need to inform the school of a positive case where they developed symptoms **within** 48 hours of being in their education setting.
2. Staff and parents/carers of pupils who were asymptomatic but tested positive within 48 hours of last being in school also need to let the school know.
3. The school should assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in their education setting.
4. Where students or staff test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) during the holidays, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in an education setting, staff, students, parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.
5. All confirmed cases continue to be reported to the health protection team:

healthprotection@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Face Coverings

Please make sure that when queuing at drop off and pick up time, that you wear your face covering.

Thank you

Chickens and Outdoor Learning

Once again we have seen our wonderful eggs hatch into adorable chicks! This year, we would very much like to start keeping chickens on site, enabling children to have first-hand experience of rearing chickens.

For this to happen, we are looking to purchase the necessary coop and run for them.

This is one of the ones we are considering. [Large Eglu Cube Chicken Coop | Easy to Clean Safe Hen House \(omlet.co.uk\)](#)

If you feel you could sponsor or support the purchase of this equipment, we would be incredibly pleased to hear from you. In the meantime, we have added a Parent Pay item for all parents, but you are not under any obligation to pay it!

Forgotten Items

We are still maintaining social distancing at school, so if your child forgets something in the morning, can we ask that you deposit it in the box at the front door. Do not worry about bringing in forgotten water bottles as there is always access to water. The same goes for reading books, as we can manage without these for the day.

We seem to have some children who constantly forget items and this then means that members of staff have to deliver items around the school, sometimes 6 or 7 in a morning! I appreciate that we all lead busy lives and the occasional lapse is fine, but habitual 'forgetters' will be followed up!



PTA Newsletter - 25.03.2021

It's a big **HELLO** from the PTA.

We are still here! Honest. We've not gone, just gone quiet, which as you know is very strange for us, however we felt this was the right thing to do under the circumstances. During these quieter (and restricted) times we have fondly reflected on our previous efforts which has given us the motivation to complete a few tasks such as:

- Clearing out the PTA shed - not fun!
- We've managed to donate a splendid 32.38kg of goodies to our local FoodBank
- We are currently working through the mountain of unnamed lost property in readiness to pay it forward by donating it further. We will also look to arrange another PreLoved uniform sale at some point in the future.
- We are delighted to announce that we have fully funded a new Firepit for the outdoor learning area so all year groups can continue to enjoy, have fun and experience outdoor learning in style!
- We created and donated a Healthy Hamper as a gesture of goodwill and gratitude towards the whole staffing team.
- We are also happy to share that the PTA are in the planning stage and have budgeted for the Year 6 Leavers event. More details to follow.
- We are in touch with MAD (Military Activity Day) Education UK to make arrangements for our allocated competition winner day from 2020 for all year groups to experience some fun through activities learning key life skills along the way.

- Finally, we are looking forward to the delivery of some new books to arrive at the school which have been purchased by the PTA for our children.

We are still unsure when we can hold any of the events we have previously, so our current focus is on supporting the school in terms of donations where the benefit will have the most impact for our children. If you wish to contact the PTA please use Facebook - Woodmancote School PTA or email thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk.

April 23rd

St George's Day Shakespeare's Birthday

For many years we have marked World Book Day, but in recent years we have been aware that the dressing up aspect of this day has become the primary focus of the day, rather than the promoting of reading generally.

This year, we are looking to mark both the birthday of Shakespeare, St George's Day and the wealth of exciting new books, wonderful stories and classic literature on April 23rd in a slightly different way.

Further details will follow soon, but this is to let you know that on this day children could mark these important dates by:

- Dressing in their Scout, Cub, Brownie, Rainbows, Sea Cadets, etc uniforms.
- Wearing Red and White to represent the flag of St George
- Donate a new or used book (in good condition) that will increase the amount of books we have in each class library.



Return to School

We are absolutely thrilled to have all the children back and it has been heartening to see them picking up friendships and fun from where they left them at the end of December! The children are fully into the swing of school and teachers across the school have been identifying issues that have emerged from the latest Lockdown and planning for how to address them.

These are the emerging themes. They **do not** necessarily apply to all children or indeed year groups, but are apparent in some form or other across the school.

- **Stamina** in reading, writing for any sustained period of time and concentrating on a single activity
- **Following simple instructions** and expectations for positive behavior.
- **Being independent**-In Reception this might manifest itself in not being able to change for PE or Forest School. Further up the school it shows itself as not having the right equipment ready to complete a task.
- **Poor presentation of work** and handwriting. Some children are not taking pride in their work, believing that it is simply ok to just finish, rather than finish to the best of their ability.
- **Lack of empathy** with other children and instead being quite self-absorbed and believing they are more important than others in their class.

Much has been made about 'plugging gaps' and 'catching up', but we believe that our focus needs to be on creating learners and giving children the necessary mindset to be able to learn effectively in the coming months.

The latest lockdown has undoubtedly been difficult, but by working together on some of the issues highlighted above, I am sure we

can help all the children make the most of their time at school.

Red Nose Day Joke Competition Winners

Well done to these amazing comedians!
Thank you to everyone who submitted a joke to help make us all smile

Reception - Isabel Martin	Why isn't Elsa allowed a balloon? Because she might 'let it go'
Year 1 - Alex Jordan	What does a cold lumberjack wear? A wood-man-coat
Year 2 - Logan Marsh	How can you make a tissue dance? Put a little boogie in it!
Year 3 - Ella Keighley	Why do seagulls fly over the sea? Because if they flew over the bay they would be baygulls!
Year 4 - Phoebe Cuthbertson	What's an egg's favourite type of music? Kara yokey!
Year 5 - Alfie Dunn	What did the lama say when he got kicked out of the zoo? Alpaca my bags!
Year 6 - Bella Lockhart	Did you hear about the frog who broke down? He got TOAD away!



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Pupil Meal Price Increase

We have been advised by Gloucestershire County Council and Caterlink that from the 19th April 2021 meal prices will be increasing from £2.32 to £2.34.

Contact Details

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School Website:

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Pre-school Website:

<http://littlechestnutspreschoolwoodmancote.co.uk/>

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