



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Newsletter 12th November

South West COVID-19 update

Although rates have started to decline in Gloucestershire, they are still at a concerning high, with current rates above both regional and national averages. The South West Directors of Public Health have identified that the greatest prevalence of COVID-19 is being seen in school age children and their families, and recommend that enhanced mitigations are implemented to reduce transmission, prevent school closures and maintain appropriate levels of education. They have recommended that schools invoke a precautionary set of measures and maintain these until at least the end of November 2021.

Our current protective measures

We will continue to maintain the following protective measures:

- Enhanced cleaning
- Improved ventilation
- Regular handwashing

Additional protective measures in school

In light of the level of infection rates, we will also **reduce the mixing between groups of children as much as possible by:**

- Maintaining year group bubbles for the duration of the school day, including lunchtimes and breaktimes.
- Pausing assemblies for the time being and moving to a virtual platform.

We will also **reduce the number of close contacts by:**

- **Suspending all indoor clubs where children from different year groups come together.** All outdoor clubs will continue as normal.

- **Suspending all face to face meetings with parents**
- **Moving the Reception Nativity Play to online.** This actually means that parents can watch it back as many times as they want!

In order to **minimise congestion and transmission** at drop off pick up times, please:

- Enter and leave the site as quickly as possible and avoid congregating in large groups
- Wear a face covering unless you are exempt.

Protective measures in our community

In order to keep our community as safe as possible, we strongly urge:

- Everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if they haven't done so already
- Everyone who is unwell to stay at home
- Everyone to self-isolate and book a PCR test if they feel that there is a possibility that they have COVID-19
- Everyone who is eligible to participate in twice weekly asymptomatic lateral flow testing.

Lateral Flow Testing

Please be aware that the South West Directors of public health are now recommending, due to the high prevalence of COVID-19, that lateral flow tests can be used by primary school aged children if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive on a PCR.

COVID-19 symptoms

Please be aware that many of the children and adults in our community who have had COVID-19 in recent weeks have not

experienced the three official COVID-19 symptoms that have historically been associated with COVID-19 (a high temperature/change to sense of smell or taste/a new persistent cough).

Instead, families and staff have reported having a blocked or runny nose, sore throat, headache, tiredness and diarrhoea.

If you are at all concerned that you, or anyone in your household has COVID-19, please book a PCR test straight away. Lateral flow tests should only be used by people that are not experiencing any symptoms.

Please remember that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

Please update us

Please email admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk if anyone in your family has tested positive for COVID-19 during the school holiday. Please let us know when periods of isolation come to an end and whether your child(ren) is well enough to participate in remote learning.

Thank you

We hope that these additional protective measures and a cautious approach will help us to keep everyone healthy and our school fully open in the run up to Christmas. We will share updates from the south west and local authority advisors as soon as we receive them.

We recognise that you may feel frustrated that schools appear to have more stringent control measures in place than the rest of society. However, it is absolutely imperative that we can keep children at school. A cluster of cases or an outbreak may necessitate a whole class or year group

having to move online and this is certainly something we do not want to have to do. In exceptional cases some local schools have had to close because of staffing issues as well. We have been fortunate that this has not been the case here, however, we have had 4 members of staff off over the last fortnight, so the issue is a real one.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Mr G Tucker

Children in Need Friday 19th November

It's Children in Need day next Friday to raise money for disadvantaged children. We are encouraging children to come into school in non-uniform (including spots if they can) and as there is a Strictly Come Dancing link this year, glittery/ shiny clothes are also welcome, as well as the usual Children in Need/ Pudsey Bear clothing items.

If you wish to make a donation to Children in need then you can by clicking on this link, <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=4663>

Thank you.

Mrs Hubbard

Parent Consultations

The new dates for parent consultations are Monday 22nd November (3.30-6.30pm) and Thursday 25th (4.30-7.30pm). They will be remote and not face to face in school.

Wear Odd Socks Day – Anti Bullying Week Mon 15th Nov – Friday 19th Nov

On Monday 15th we ask that children wear odd socks. It is a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in anti bullying week.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week>

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)

The school has several DSLs who are responsible for all aspects of Safeguarding. If you have a concern about a child, either in or out of school, please feel free to contact one of us.

Mr Tucker

head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Mrs Badham

sbadham@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Mrs Grosvenor

rgrosvenor@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Mr Evans

revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

School Website:

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Pre-school Website:

<http://littlechestnuts.preschoolwoodmancote.co.uk/>

Contact Details

admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

woodpeckers@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Dates for the Diary-These are regularly updated and new events written in, so please do look through again.

All dates and events are dependent upon the latest advice from the Local Authority.

Sunday 14 th November	Remembrance Service at The Apple Tree Car Park, led by Mrs Hiscock.
Monday 15 th November	Anti Bullying Week - Wear odd socks to school.
Friday 19 th November	Children In Need Day - Non uniform day
Monday 22 nd	Virtual Parent Consultations 3.30-6.30
Thursday 25 th	Virtual Parent Consultations 4.30-7.30
Friday 26 th November	INSET No school for children
Friday 10 th December	In School Pantomime
	Christmas Outfit, Jumper, T-shirt Day in aid of Save the Children
Tuesday 14 th	KS1 Christmas Concert am Details to follow
Wednesday 15 th	Christmas Dinner
17 th December	Last day of term 2
Tuesday 4 th January	INSET No school for children
5 th January	First day of term 3

