

# HARPUR HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Trent Avenue, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9LP Tel: 01298 23261



## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

### HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

#### **Welcome back!**

The new school year has started very well. Thank you for your support with the new arrangements. I am pleased to let you know that the new starters in Nursery, Reception and other classes are settling well into their new school. We also have several other new families who have joined us this term. A very warm welcome to you all!

#### **Update on Risk Assessments and Safety Measures**

The new 'bubbles' are working well and the staggered start, finish and break times are allowing children time to wash their hands and get settled with their learning. Children have adapted well to the new routines and we are cleaning surfaces and equipment more frequently. Classrooms are arranged so that desks are facing forward and the bubbles are being kept separate. At the end of this newsletter you will find further information from the Department for Education about coronavirus.

#### **Start and End of the School Day**

The start and end of the school day arrangements are working well so far – thank you for your patience and co-operation. I have received a lot of positive feedback from parents. Children have been able to come into school quickly and settle into their learning. We have reduced the number of people using the same entrance/exit point. The amount of traffic has reduced and parking has improved.

May we remind you of the following:

- Please drop off and collect your children at the correct times.
- Do not congregate in groups outside the school gates.
- Send your child straight into school as soon as you arrive at your allotted time and send your child straight into school to avoid congestion.
- One adult only to bring child/ren to reduce the number of people on the school journey and outside school.
- Please walk to school wherever possible to reduce the amount of traffic on the roads outside school.
- Please take care when driving outside school or on the main car park.
- Please park safely and considerately, without blocking pavements and driveways.

#### **Please help...**

Please may we ask for your co-operation in an important matter. One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment that affects their immune system, which puts them at high risk if they are exposed to measles, chickenpox or shingles. Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles, chicken pox or shingles, as the pupil may require treatment for this. It is also important that you let us know if there is shingles in your household.

Please do not send your child into school if they are generally unwell or experience diarrhoea and vomiting within the last 48 hours or suffering with any coughs and colds – following COVID-19 guidelines. Your child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of our pupil who is at risk does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we hope you can help us. Thank you.

### **New Website**

Our school website has had a re-design – please take a look: [www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### **Family Survey**

Thank you for completing the family survey – we appreciate the feedback we have received and will use this to improve what we do in the future. The main findings were:

- 72% of children had been to school throughout lockdown or had returned
- 98% of children were pleased to have been back in school during lockdown
- 98% of families said communication with school was ok or better, with 22% good and 69% excellent
- Families made some very positive comments about the communication and support they had received from individual teachers and staff
- Families said children were happy to come back, to see their friends and enjoyed the activities
- Families made some very positive comments about the support and provision for key worker children in lockdown
- The survey outlined which platforms/websites were most popular e.g. TTRockstars, MyMaths, Class Dojo and the school website. We will be using this information when planning future home learning and homework.
- A few families appreciated work being sent out on worksheets rather than online
- A few parents asked for clearer instructions for some activities and several said videos were useful
- A few parents would have liked more structured regular contact with teachers.

### **Remote Learning**

In the event of a local lockdown, or in case a group or 'bubble' of children has to self-isolate for 14 days, we are developing contingency plans for remote learning. We are using the findings of the family survey to make sure we use communication methods that have been most effective and popular. We will provide a broad range of activities with clear instructions and videos.

### **Online Safety**

Schools in Derbyshire have been advised to ask parents and carers to talk to their children about what they should do if they see something online that upsets or frightens them. Children need to know that they can talk about what they have seen online and that it's ok to ask for help if they need it. Please check parental controls on all devices children use to access the internet and be vigilant around the use of popular platforms such as TikTok/YouTube. Also make sure that children are playing games/accessing online content that is appropriate for their age. If children access material that you feel is inappropriate, you can delete or block the channel/account and report inappropriate content. Please also make sure children know how to report content themselves. Please see the online safety section of the school website for more information: [http://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk/key-information/online safety](http://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk/key-information/online%20safety)

## Early Help

Over the summer, Julie Woods, Family Support Worker, has left us to start a new position at Buxton Community School. We wish her all the best in her new job. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Family Support Worker, possibly through a shared arrangement within the Buxton cluster. Families who were working with Julie will be allocated a different member of staff who will be providing support in the interim period.

We will be contacting you in the coming weeks to inform you of these arrangements. In the meantime, if you have a concern about a school-related issue, please get in touch with your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you are concerned that a child is suffering or at risk of significant harm, please contact Starting Point: 01629 533190.

## Finally....

We will do everything we can to ensure the children are happy and safe in school. It's great to have the school full of children once again - working hard and enjoying their learning. I will keep you updated as much as possible if arrangements change in the coming weeks and term ahead.

Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful school.

Mrs Giliker (Headteacher)

## ADMIN UPDATE

### Flu Programme

Our school will be continuing with the e-consent for the Flu Programme.

This year on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October, the NHS nurses will be in school to vaccinate children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. When completing the e-consent, please state the year group your child is in. If you have already completed a consent form you do not need to do this again.

Please visit <https://www.derbyshireandcityimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu> to complete the consent form. The option to consent or decline the vaccination is at the end of the questionnaire so please complete even if you do not want your child to have the vaccination.

Your unique school code for **Harpur Hill Primary School** is **DD112523**

For more information about the vaccination please visit the following website:  
<http://www.derbyshireschoolnurses.org.uk/parents/immunisations>

It is unlikely that the NHS will be able to run "catch up" clinics this year so please make sure you complete a consent form before 19.10.2020.

If you experience any problems, please call the School Age Immunisation Team:

**Repton:** 01283 707178

**Clay Cross:** 01246 252953

Or email us [DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net](mailto:DCHST.immunisationteam@nhs.net)

### Contact Information

If you change your details (telephone, email, address etc.) please let school know as soon as possible. Also If your family circumstances change kindly advise our office staff so we can update your child/ren's records.

## Mobile App

We would like to encourage all parents/carers to use the school's Mobile App. In order to keep you up to date with our school activities/news we would really like you to take advantage of our free school app. Please see the following information about our mobile app which you can download and use on your mobile phone or tablet.

We communicate with parents/carers using the following options in the app:

\* School diary \* News \* Newsletters\* (also includes year group letters) \* Notices\* Links to other sites (e.g. the school website and Facebook page) \* Contact details for school \* Settings - you will be able to set push notifications for newsletters, news and notices.

To download: -

Android users Go to Google Play, search for School Jotter or scan the QR code.



iOS users Go to App Store and search for School Jotter or scan the QR code.



Once the App has been installed, type in Harpur Hill (or our postcode SK17 9LP) to find our school (there is a large list in the Jotter App). You will then be asked whether or not you want the App to use push notifications. We suggest that these are set to on if you want to be kept updated as soon as new communication is sent. You can of course, always set these up later from within your phone settings. Please download and use the new app; it will provide regular and useful communication from school.

## DIARY DATES

Date	Event	Details
T.B.A.	Visit to the Holocaust Museum	Planned for Year 6 children
19.10.2020	Children to have their flu vaccination	Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6
23.10.2020	End of term	School closes @ 3.30pm
2.11.2020	Staff INSET day	
3.11.2020	Start of a new term	School open to children from 8.45am

## SPORTS UPDATE

P.E. in school is looking slightly different than usual. Government guidance recommends that although many sports can be played under their National Governing Body's advice, schools should still operate a 1 metre plus and no contact approach. Our Infants will be learning about their ABC's in sports (Agility, Balance and Coordination), whilst our Juniors are learning about some of the different events in Athletics such as sprinting, hurdles and jumping events.

There are to be no Inter School tournaments until after Christmas at least, however we will be running our own 'in bubble sports' competitions. Sports breakfast clubs will be starting next week on Wednesdays and Thursdays for the Year 5/6 bubble. These are free but will fill up on a first come first served basis.

Lastly please keep an eye out for our After School Football and Dance classes which will be starting soon and will have minimal spaces available!

## Chris Hill Community Sports

We will be starting to provide after school clubs again provided by Chris Hill Community Sports. These will be for Year 2 upwards in the first instance. Children will be able to attend these clubs in their 'bubble' and appropriate risk assessments will be carried out. To help plan what after school provision might be required, an online survey has been developed for parents. Please complete if you are interested in your child taking part in after school clubs. Thank you.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1s2sV9HQT1D5LMiWq2O9JRWvlug\\_BiuQe\\_jb7mObYH1g/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1s2sV9HQT1D5LMiWq2O9JRWvlug_BiuQe_jb7mObYH1g/edit)

## CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

### DfE Guidance

You can visit [gov.uk/backtoschool](https://gov.uk/backtoschool) for information and practical guidance. This includes our latest update to the [guidance for parents and carers on what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#).

The DfE guidance is clear that **prevention** is the most important way of schools managing coronavirus.

**Below are the measures we must take in school:**

- We must minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- We must ensure that pupils, staff and other adults do not come into the school if they have coronavirus symptoms, or have tested positive in at least the last 10 days.
- We must ensure that anyone developing those symptoms during the school day is sent home.

### Symptoms of coronavirus

- a new and persistent cough
- a high temperature,
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with any of these symptoms they must be sent home and advised to follow the guidance which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus.

In school, **we will also focus on:**

- **cleaning hands thoroughly more often** than usual
- ensuring **good respiratory hygiene** by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- introducing **enhanced cleaning**, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often

We also have clear guidance in school about what **measures to take if there is a suspected or identified case** of Covid-19 in school.