



West Heath Primary News

(18th September 2020)

THANK YOU we are so grateful for your support with following our school guidelines. The morning procedures are working well. There is still capacity for more children to be dropped off at the Rednal Road gate. It is quite easy to 'drop and go' without getting out of the car. It is also less busy.

- The end of the day procedures are mostly working well. Thank you for socially distancing at the school gates at the end of the day, it is much safer.
- We will be allowing those children in Year 5 and 6, who walk home on their own or who meet their parents off site, to be dismissed by their teachers at 3.15.
- We are working towards reducing the amount of time parents have to wait around for siblings at the end of the school day.
- We will continue to evaluate end of day procedures over the next week and let you know if times will be reduced further.
- There are still a handful of parents who are not taking responsibility for their own children.
- There are also a very small number of parents who congregate on paths or approach staff.

Cooperation of parents will be a key factor in decisions made.

Welcome to our new Reception Class children.

The new reception children have settled very well and it is a joy to watch them learning new skills. Thank you to all reception class parents who have supported their child in making a very good start to their primary school education. We are sure that you will agree the cards the children made for you and the phone calls home have really helped both you and your child to settle.



Key dates

A list of key dates for the academic year 2020/21 can be found on the school website. We hope that, as the Government restrictions ease, we can add more events to it.

FOREST SCHOOL



All children will get the opportunity to take part in Forest School this year. Currently class 13, 10, 8, 14, 12, 15 all take part weekly. This will last until half term.

There is confusion about what children should wear for Forest School. Given the fact that we are in a pandemic and the amount of items we can have in school is limited, there isn't facility for children to change their clothes. Therefore on Forest School days, children must have with them; a waterproof coat, clean socks, wellies or a pair of shoes that you don't mind getting muddy. Water proof trousers are also permitted. Unfortunately, we can't predict the weather so please make sure that your child has the correct equipment. Children will bring wellies etc home to be cleaned on Forest School days. Please look at our school website and Twitter account for more photographs.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

Children will also take part in outdoor PE whatever the weather. Your children will need a waterproof coat, a spare pair of footwear and a change of socks when the weather is bad. Tracksuit bottoms must be worn over the top of PE shorts on outdoor PE days. Waterproof trousers are permitted to be worn over PE kit too. We have been lucky with the weather so far this term but we know that it will rain and get colder. Please make sure that your child has the correct clothing.



Newsletter

From this week, we will be sending the school newsletter to your email address as well as via PING. It will also be on the school website.



SCHOOL VALUES

This week we have been focussing on collaboration. The children have been working hard to listen to and work with each other. Our motto 'WORK TOGETHER, LEARN TOGETHER' can clearly be seen in the children's work.

Next week's school values focus is resilience: **ACCEPT, REFLECT, MOVE ON!** Over the past few months, we have all shown resilience and your children have adapted to our ever-changing world exceptionally well. Please discuss with your children the meaning of the word resilience and keep checking our school Twitter next week to see some of the children's work.

Government Covid 19 update

Due to the increase in Coronavirus Cases we are in an area of local restriction. Local affected areas are: Birmingham, Solihull, Sandwell. The following restrictions have been directed by the Government and are now law. We are sure that you have found the restrictions difficult to understand. The information below gives a brief synopsis of what is expected by law whilst we are in a local affected area.

Social contact restrictions

If you live in the affected areas, you must not:

- host people you do not live with in your home or garden, unless they're in your support bubble
- meet people you do not live with in their home or garden, whether inside or outside of the affected areas, unless they're in your support bubble

Your household is defined as the people you live with and any support bubble.

A [support bubble](#) is where a household with one adult joins with another household (on an exclusive basis). Households within a bubble can still visit each other, stay overnight and visit public places together.

People must only come inside your home or garden for specific purposes set out in law:

- where everyone in the gathering lives together or is in the same support bubble
- to attend a birth at the mother's request
- to visit a person who is dying (the visitor can be someone the dying person lives with, a close family member, friend or, if none of those is visiting, anyone else)
- to fulfil a legal obligation
- for work purposes (see guidance on [working safely in other people's homes](#)), or for the provision of voluntary or charitable services
- for the purposes of education or training
- for the purposes of childcare provided by a registered provider
- to provide emergency assistance
- to enable one or more persons in the gathering to avoid injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm
- to facilitate a house move
- to provide care or assistance to a vulnerable person
- to continue existing arrangements for access to, and contact between, parents and children where the children do not live in the same household as their parents, or one of their parents

The police will be able to take action against those that break these rules, including asking people to disperse and issuing fixed penalty notices starting at £100 for those who participate in illegal gatherings.

People aged 18 or over will be able to be fined:

- £100 for the first offence, lowered to £50 if paid within 14 days
- £200 for the second offence, then doubling for each further offence up to a maximum of £3,200

The government has already introduced fines for those who hold illegal gatherings of over 30 people. Holding or being involved in the holding of an [illegal gathering](#) of more than 30 people is an offence, and police may issue fines of £10,000 to those who break the law. As of Monday 14 September, while you should continue to follow the rules in this guidance within private homes and gardens, you will also need to comply with the new national restrictions that prohibit meeting up in a group of more than 6 people in other locations (apart from specific exemptions listed in the [national guidance](#))