



HOYLE COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

11th September 2020



Respect – Responsibility - Resilience – Kindness – Teamwork

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Welcome Back

It's been a school start this year like no other. Like many of the children, we were somewhat apprehensive on Sunday evening as we prepared for the full return to school. It has been really lovely to see the children (and you) back. The children appear very settled and have taken to new routines remarkably quickly. At 96.6%, attendance is also very high. It feels very different in some ways; it was strange not having Friday Awards Assembly today for example. However, it's been a really positive return to some sort of normality. I hope you feel your children are already benefitting from being back at school.

I'm pleased many of you have already been able to say 'hi' to Mrs Rutherford, our new Deputy Head Teacher and Mrs Robinson, our new Special Educational Needs Coordinator. Their initial impressions?...supportive staff and lovely, well behaved children.

Medicines in School

If your child needs to take prescribed medicine during the school day, please email our school office: office@hoylecourt.bradford.sch.uk

We may ask you for further information, so we can be really clear on how to safely support your child. This is particularly the case if your child requires medication (including asthma inhalers). Please do not send your child into school with any *non-prescription* medicines such as hay fever tablets, travel sickness pills or cough sweets. If these are mislaid during the school day and swallowed by another child there could be potentially serious consequences.

Will your child be starting secondary school next year?
[Click Here](#) to find out how to apply for a place.

Mary's Prize-winning Potion

Congratulations to Mary in year 4 who won the Primary Shakespeare Company competition to compose a spell! Mary's beautiful work has won our school £100 of book vouchers.
Well done Mary.

Learning during Lockdown

Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding learning during lockdown. With children of our own we know full well the massive challenges this presented at the time. We responded to the best of our capacity in the time we had. Schools were very much unprepared for an event like this. Whereas we were generally pleased with the approach we put together, we aim to improve this in the event of a second lockdown.

We will be launching the **SeeSaw** 'learning platform' later this month. This will allow Teacher feedback to individual children on their learning, which we were not always able to provide during lockdown. We will also be investing in an online reading resource to support daily home reading in the event of second lockdown.

Clearly we are hoping a second lockdown of schools is not needed. However, if the whole school or a bubble needs to learn from home again, we want to be ready.

Lost Property

There is a large amount of lost property from last year. As school closed very rapidly when lockdown was announced, this is perhaps unsurprising. If there is a specific item(s) which you think we may have (and which you need back) please let your child's Teacher know. On **Friday next week**, all remaining items will be taken to charity.

A Polite Reminder

Dogs are not permitted on school grounds. This is the same in all schools. Whereas most dogs are very friendly, not all children or adults feel comfortable when they are close by. Clearly the only exception to this is assistance dogs.

COVID-19

The Symptoms...

Main symptoms of Covid-19:

- New continuous cough
- High temperature
- Change in sense of smell or taste

Our Response...

Staff would leave the premises with immediate effect. Children would be isolated from other pupils until a parent collected them.

They would then need to self-isolate for 10 days. If they tested positive for Covid, household members would also need to self-isolate for 14 days.

If your child shows symptoms...

Take them home and get them tested. If they then test negative and their symptoms end, they can return to school – but only once their symptoms have stopped.

If someone in your child's bubble tests positive...

We will tell all parents of children (and staff) in that bubble *on the same day* and inform you of what to do. We will also inform the Council and Public Health England.

All children and staff from that bubble must self-isolate for 14 days. This means if a child or staff member tests positive, the entire bubble / class would not return to school for two weeks- even if they tested negative for Covid.

The above is in conjunction with advice from Public Health England

Flu Vaccination

If you have not done so already, please could you return your vaccination forms back to the school office. The date of the vaccination is:

Tuesday 17th November

Keep in Touch

It is important we have your most up to date contact information - just in case we need to get hold of you, If you change your mobile phone number for example.

As we move over to our new APP, having an up to date email address is particularly important. If you are not contactable via email, please can you let us know by phoning the school office?

Staggered Starts

Establishing a system which works for everyone takes time, so thank you for your patience, as this is something all schools have struggled with. School premises were not built to accommodate social distancing and the practicalities of ensuring 600 people (300 parents and 300 pupils) enter and leave as safely as possible through one main entrance in a 20 minute period – is not easy.

As the week has progressed I hope you agree that this has become calmer and more systematic. This is also due to the sensible and cooperative approach of parents – thank you. Some parents are not dropping off at their required time. However, I accept that most parents are trying their hardest and this is hampered by the difficulties with parking on Fyfe Grove. By continuing to work together we can ensure we are being as safe as possible.



New School APP – New School Website

On 1st October we will be changing over to a new website and messaging service. Both will be provided through 'ParentAPPS'. This will replace Ping as our main method of communication.

- The APP and website will be fully integrated.
- The website will be fully mobile friendly.
- There will be a wide range of additional features such as parent questionnaires, reporting a child absent and a 2- way message system between Teachers and parents.

We aim for this to be as smooth as possible. However, please bear with us.

- **18th September:** You will receive an invite with joining instructions (you will receive a text or email message. Click on the link, which will then direct you to download the APP. You will then set yourself a username and password
- **30th September:** Ping messages will cease
- **1st October:** New school APP and website will go live.

More details will follow