



Education Resources
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Woodside Primary
Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick

Our ref: Week 2
Your ref:
If calling ask for: ER
Phone: 01698 427811
Date: 27th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Return to school update – Week 2

As we speed towards the end of our second full week in school I wanted to give you a few updates regarding school life.

The children are all coping extremely well with our new routines, classroom life and lunchtime organisation. They are truly remarkable and their behaviour has been fantastic. I am very proud of all of them. Many of our new systems are a big hit with the children, especially the new lunchtime set up. The children are enjoying having their packed lunch in the gym hall and lunchtime has become a much more chilled and social experience for everybody!

A special 'Well Done' to all our Primary 1 children who have confidently walked into school every day this week by themselves. This has been a huge achievement and I am sure a wee bit emotional for all their parents too!

Gates

This week we have noticed that the volume of parents still standing for prolonged periods at the gates has reduced. Thank you for dropping off, picking up and moving on. We need to continue with this approach in order to keep everyone safe. We aim to have our Primary 1 children ready and at the gate for 2.45pm. This ensures they are all collected safely before our Primary 2 and 3 children then exit.

Waterproof jackets and coats

Please ensure your child comes to school wearing a waterproof jacket or coat. August has not been kind to us and most days we will try to let the children out to play unless it is torrential rain. We also plan to incorporate outdoor learning opportunities most weeks too when possible. Due to the current restrictions we are unable to bring children into school early on wet mornings.

Water bottles

Following SLC guidance a staff member is required to refill water bottles as children are unable to do this on their own at present. As you can imagine in a school our size this is a very time consuming process. If at all possible, could you please provide two bottles of water for your child, or a large water bottle if they drink lots throughout the day? Please ensure bottles are only filled with plain water as many are spilling into trays and making the contents sticky.

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Homework

We do not plan to set homework tasks straight away as at the moment our number one priority is supporting all our children and their families to settle back into a school life routine. We are planning to use our 'Google Classrooms' as a way of setting homework. More information on this will follow soon.

PE

Current guidelines state that all physical education should happen outdoors. I hope to share when your child will be having PE at some point next week. However, this will all depend on the weather on the day! We are happy for the children to wear a school sweater with their sports trousers or leggings to school on their PE day along with trainers.

Ventilation

As you will be aware we have to ensure good ventilation throughout the school. This has meant classroom windows being open throughout the day. Please ensure your child is wearing a sweater or cardigan as the damp August temperatures have cooled our building down.

Afterschool arrangements

If your child is going home on the school bus or to an after school club please can you send the class teacher a letter outlining daily arrangements. Please notify the school office as soon as possible if there are any changes.

Absences

We have had a considerable number of children off this week with colds and tummy bugs. Returning to school has been a shock to everyone's bodies and even the teachers have sore throats with talking so much again! Please ensure you report all absences to the school office by 9.30am. It is important that we are all clear on the protocol for dealing with any pupils displaying the symptoms of Covid-19 so that we can respond promptly and correctly. The most common symptoms are:

- new continuous cough
- fever / high temperature
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

If you or your child has been for a test it is vital that you update the office with the outcome of the results, as this information is being monitored.

If you require any more information then please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Many thanks,

Elaine Renwick
Head Teacher