



27th November
2020

Information update for Parents

'Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all'
Aristotle

Here's what you need to know...

- Ongoing plans
- Staffing news
- Attendance
- Achievement assembly

Christina Singh
Nascot Wood Junior School

And once the storm is over, you won't remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won't even be sure whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what this storm's all about'

Haruki Murakami

Ongoing plans

I am pleased to report that the minor changes that we made to our dismissal arrangements have been working well, and we appear to be avoiding the pavement congestion that we were worried about.

Thank you, as always, for your support, which has meant that we have been able to operate these arrangements effectively.

I understand from the Government's announcement yesterday, that Hertfordshire will be placed in Tier 2 when lockdown ends on the 2nd December. This is part of a tougher three-tiered system that the Government will be implementing.

As you will be aware, the Government has also decided to relax the restrictions for the Christmas period (22nd–27th December), to allow people to meet with their families to celebrate the festive season.

This decision, whilst welcome, could potentially lead to an increase in covid 19 cases. With this in mind, we will therefore continue to take the utmost care in school to ensure that we can keep classes open throughout the academic year.

For the time being, our strategy will remain unchanged, and we will continue to:

- Limit the number of visitors to the school site (essential personnel only)
- Wear face masks and face shields
- Continue to carefully manage arrival and dismissal of the children
- Ask that parents wear face coverings when collecting their children
- Ensure that staff, parents and children maintain social distance
- Ensure that the children wash their hands regularly throughout the day
- Continue to maintain the staggered breaks and zoned playground
- Ask parents to provide their child with a hot or cold packed lunch
- Keep staffing consistent within each classroom (where possible)
- Close the school on a Friday afternoon to give Teachers their statutory PPA time without compromising class groups
- Ensure that there is a regular and thorough cleaning schedule in school
- Have virtual rather than face to face meetings, where possible

Our strategy is regularly reviewed and will be revised as soon as the situation changes.

Staffing news



Rowan Tree

I am saddened to tell you that Mrs Higginson has decided to retire at the end of this term.

Her intention was to retire at the end of this academic year, however, as a result of the inevitable pressures that have come from teaching during a pandemic, she has requested to be released early.

Mrs Higginson began teaching at the school in 1979, and has made a huge contribution during her forty one years at Nascot Wood Junior School.

I have written a separate letter to the parents of children in Rowan class, outlining our plans for January to ensure that they experience minimal disruption during their final year.

I'm sure that you will join me in wishing Mrs Higginson a very happy retirement, spending time with her husband, three children and grandsons, Thomas and Jonah.



Pearson Teacher of the Year award 2016

Attendance

Below are the most up to date attendance percentages, in comparison to the equivalent period last year. You will notice that these attendance figures continue to compare favourably, meaning that the children are having uninterrupted access to high-quality education.

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that your children have high attendance at school; it remains the most important factor for their ongoing progress and attainment.

Attendance Percentage 2020		Comparative attendance 2019	
Monday 16 th November	97.07%	Monday 18 th November	98.15%
Tuesday 17 th November	99.16%	Tuesday 19 th November	97.41%
Wednesday 18 th November	99.16%	Wednesday 20 th November	97.78%
Thursday 19 th November	98.74%	Thursday 21 st November	98.52%
Friday 20 th November	96.23%	Friday 22 nd November	95.56%
Average percentage	98.07%	Average percentage	97.48%

Attendance Percentage 2020		Comparative attendance 2019	
Monday 23 rd November	94.98%	Monday 25 th November	95.56%
Tuesday 24 th November	96.65%	Tuesday 26 th November	96.67%
Wednesday 25 th November	96.65%	Wednesday 27 th November	97.78%
Thursday 26 th November	96.65%	Thursday 28 th November	97.78%
Friday 27 th November	95.82%	Friday 29 th November	97.04%
Average percentage	96.15%	Average percentage	96.96%

Achievement Assembly



In this week's assembly, I was joined by our House Captains.

The children will be shown this recording in their classrooms, and you can also access it on the school's facebook page:

<https://www.nascotwoodjm.herts.sch.uk/page/?title=Achievement+Assemblies&pid=1202>

I hope you enjoy it,

Christina Singh

Headteacher