

Friday 8th January 2021

Information for Parents



Here's what you need to know...

- Happy New Year
- Learning during lockdown
- Future Plans
- Virtual Assembly

Nascot Wood Junior School

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

It isn't quite the New Year that we were expecting, and I am sorry that we have had to close the school, in line with the Government's directive.

It is particularly disappointing given the sterling work of staff, children and parents, which enabled us to have no class or year group closures during the Autumn Term.

It seems likely that schools will remain closed until February half term, at least. With this in mind, we are working hard to ensure that your children have access to high quality online learning, in order to minimise the impact of their absence.

It is slightly different from the first lockdown; attendance and participation are expected and absence will be followed up by the Class Teacher. *Please see information on the following page.*

The large percentage of children who are already engaging in learning report that they are really enjoying the interaction with their Teachers and friends.



Learning during lockdown

During the Autumn Term, we developed our online learning offer, mindful of the possibility of a further lockdown. All the children continued to use google classroom whilst they were in school, in order to ensure familiarity and confidence should they have to work more independently during a school closure.

Here are some guidelines for your information:

- All Class Teachers are holding a google meeting every morning at 9am or 9.30am (timings are on google classroom). *These are compulsory for the children to attend.*
- All Class Teachers are running a catch up session every afternoon, to enable children to ask the Teacher questions about the work, or to have a chat. *Attendance for these sessions is voluntary.*
- There will be between 4 and 5 hours of work set for your children each day. They are expected to complete as much as they can each day.
- Class Teachers will check and comment on your children's work.
- Approximately 97% of the children are actively engaging in this work, and we will continue to follow up on children that we have not yet seen. This is in order to ensure that children do not miss out on valuable learning opportunities.
- Children from upper key stage 2 (years 5 and 6) have been working in virtual groups throughout the school day. I will keep you informed as we continue to develop our remote learning offer.

Over the last few days there have been some brief interruptions to the google meetings that Teachers have been having with the children.

Please can we request that parents do not get involved in these sessions and, if there is a need to contact the Class Teacher, they book an appointment by contacting the school office.

Future Plans

During these challenging times, it is important to be forward thinking, in order to ensure that the school continues to develop and improve at a rapid rate. With this in mind, we have been assessing all aspects of our provision in order to identify areas for development.

One of the areas that we have been focusing on is before and after school provision.

We are interested in your views about this, particularly with regards to the idea of a new school-run provision, which would focus on providing the children with a structured environment in which they could complete home learning and take part in creative activities. This provision would take place in a Junior School classroom.

Please could you complete the survey by *Friday 15th January at 12 noon*. This can be found [here](#). It will take 2-3 minutes to complete and it would be equally useful if we could get the views of all parents; those who are interested and those who are not.

The information that you give us will be crucial in enabling us to make a decision about whether to invest in this aspect of school.



Virtual Assembly

This week's assembly can be accessed [here](#)

