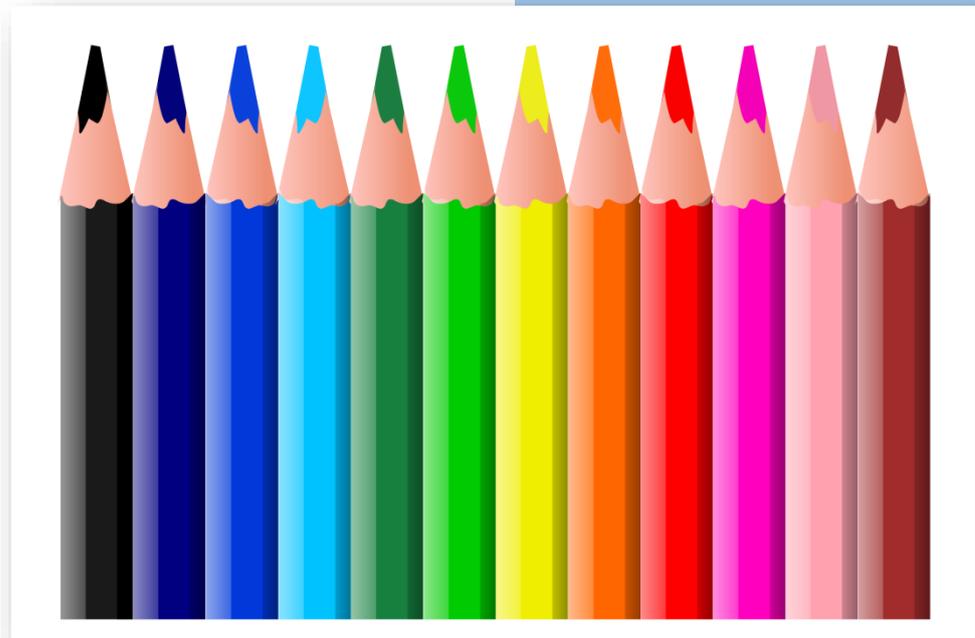


25th September

2020

Covid 19 update for Parents



Here's what you need to know in 5 minutes...

- How has the return to school been going?
- The ongoing plan; are there any changes?
- What do we need you to do?
- Update on children's learning
- Head Boy and Head Girl appointments

Christina Singh

Nascot Wood Junior School

How has the return to school been going?

We continue to be impressed by the children's attitude to the return to school, and their resilience, given the difficult circumstances that they have faced.

I would like to thank parents, who have worked so proactively to source tests for their children when necessary. I am pleased to report that all tests have been negative so far.

Given the understandable caution of parents and Teachers when children are ill, I am pleased to share the attendance figures with you, directly compared with the same period last year. They are as follows:

Attendance Percentage 2020		Comparative attendance 2019	
Mon 14 th September	96.88%	Mon 16 th September	96%
Tue 15 th September	98.09%	Tue 17 th September	97%
Wed 16 th September	98.08%	Wed 18 th September	98%
Thur 17 th September	95.45%	Thu 19 th September	94%
Fri 18 th September	89%	Fri 20 th September	97%
Mon 21 st September	90.97%	Mon 16 th September	96%
Tue 22 nd September	91.74%	Tue 17 th September	97%
Wed 23 rd September	94.49%	Wed 18 th September	98%
Average percentage	94.33%	Average percentage	96.62

In the light of this week's Government briefings in which greater restrictions have had to be imposed, as a result of the increase in Covid 19 cases, we will continue to take a measured approach with our protocols and procedures, ensuring that we mitigate risk, and the children receive as rich and broad an education as we can possibly give them.

On Thursday 17th September, we had a socially distanced fire drill and all the children were remarkable in the way that responded to this new system. The whole school lined up, in silence, on the playground at a social distance within one minute of the fire alarm ringing. This was a remarkable achievement, given the difficult circumstances and the need to get this essential process working smoothly.

The ongoing plan

Thank you for your support and help with our procedures for welcoming and dismissing the children each day; it would have been impossible to operate these without your cooperation. We continue to meet as a staff each day to assess the procedures, and make any necessary adjustments for further improvement.

A heartfelt thank you for your response to my request to wear a face mask when dropping and collecting your children. I estimate that 95%+ of the parent body are now wearing a mask, and this gives comfort to vulnerable children, parents and staff. I feel very proud of the response from our school community and thank you for this.

Are there any changes?

As I mentioned, we are constantly monitoring and reviewing our procedures in order to adapt them where necessary.

Due to the success of morning drop off arrangements and the swift and sensible way that the children come into school, we are considering reducing the time allocation for arrival and returning to our previous timings of 8.35am–8.50am. We are considering implementing this change from after half term.

I will, of course, continue to keep you updated with any proposed changes or decisions with plenty of time for you to plan if necessary.

What do we need you to do?

Please could you help us by ensuring that your child has all of their belongings ready when arriving at the gate, to enable foot traffic to be free flowing; please do not block the entrance by standing with your child.

Please continue to follow the instructions from my previous report, which are outlined below:

- When queuing to drop off or collect your child, please stand on the marked footprints behind the marked white line, allowing space for Mr Watts and I to bring the children into school/dismiss the children in a socially distanced way
- We respectfully request that you consider wearing a face covering/face mask when dropping off and collecting your child, as our narrow pavements make it difficult to maintain social distance
- Please could we request that only one adult comes to collect each child
- Please ensure that you read all the communication from the school and familiarise yourselves and your child with the arrangements

Update on children's learning

I'm pleased to tell you that our comprehensive intervention plan is working well, and children who have been identified as needing some additional support have engaged with this and are benefitting from it.

If your child is not part of this intervention programme, it is because they have been assessed by their Class Teacher to be managing well in class.

Class Teachers have adapted their teaching to take into consideration the inevitable gaps in the children's learning, due to the closure of schools during the last academic year. They are also building in additional time in order to meet the social and emotional needs of the children.

If you have any concerns about your child, please let us know by contacting the office admin@nascotwoodjm.herts.sch.uk who will forward your email to the relevant Class Teacher/member of staff.

Head Boy and Head Girl appointments

Many congratulations to Billy and Ashleigh, who were successful in being appointed as Nascot Wood Junior School's fifth Head Boy and Head Girl.

All the applications were of a high standard, and I was very impressed by all the children who applied.

In addition, we appointed three prefects to support Billy and Ashleigh in these important roles. Many congratulations to Anushree, Verushka and Sebastian who will serve as prefects for this academic year.

I will be awarding the children with their badges of office in a virtual assembly to be arranged soon. We will do our best to make this available to you on the website.