

# WEXHAM COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020



## Key Dates coming up for Parents & Carers

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Hot Lunches Trial (Years 1-6 ONLY)
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Flu vaccinations (Reception to Year 6)
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Individual Student Photographs
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – last day of term

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have heard that the Rate of Infection is on the increase, something we were expecting to see as we move into the colder months. Alongside this increase, it has now become difficult to get tested quickly. The Government promised schools that this would not be an issue. As a result, last week and mostly likely for many more weeks to come, we had a lot of staff absence. There are two main reasons:

- The staff member's child has symptoms; therefore, the household must isolate; or
- The staff member's child in another school has been sent home, therefore they must isolate.

In both cases, they cannot return to school until they have been given a negative test result. Both last week and this week, we have had several staff in this situation. Additionally, three Assistant Heads are currently on maternity leave. The school office is down by one member and we have Lunchtime Controllers and Learning Support Assistants off work too. This means that staffing in the school is stretched at present. We are avoiding using agency staff, so that the return to school education is not diluted, and so that we can minimise outside contact. From my discussions with the Local Authority, the situation is set to get worse.

I ask that you remain patient with us. I know that having Year 1 and Reception in the Barn is not ideal and that when it rains, people become more agitated. I know this and am working to try and improve the situation, by talking to the Transport Team in Slough. In the meantime, we have to brave the weather and continue. In regards to communication, please speak to your child's class teacher through TEAMS (between 3-4.30pm). Alternatively, call and leave a message with the school office and the teacher will arrange to call you back at a convenient time. Please be aware that we are receiving a much higher number of emails and telephone calls at present; therefore, trying to do everything is not possible. If we have not responded to you, please give us a few days; if you hear nothing, please try again.

This way of schooling will be with us for some time and teachers/leaders will spend time covering extra sessions, covering lunchtimes, having no Learning Support Assistants; so, they are tired. Please be kind. Across the nation, we need to look after our teachers, as we will rely on them heavily in the coming months. The vast majority of you have been wonderful and supportive, so thank you.



In other news, I am delighted to announce that Mrs. Fletcher gave birth to a healthy baby girl; Rose Olivia Fletcher. Mum and baby are doing fine and are due home today. Just Mrs. Harris to go!

Mr. Ensby will be starting up his after-school sports sessions; letters were sent home last week. These sessions and class PE will have a really strong focus on fitness. A number of pupils have put on weight during lockdown, and we need to get them active again.



As you know, we appointed a part time music teacher, Mrs Goodman. Despite the many restrictions placed on using instruments and singing, Mrs Goodman has found some lovely activities that the pupils can engage in and the sessions have been delightful.

#### A few reminders:

- If your child does not have enough money on their sQuid account, they will not be served a school meal, until their account is topped up. Please ensure that your child's sQuid account is kept in funds.
- Please wear a face covering whilst queuing to drop off/pick up your children, or when on the school site.
- Please do not stop to speak to teachers – this is inappropriate, causes a backlog of parents and compromises the teacher's safety. Try to maintain a 1.5m distance and as mentioned above, contact your child's class teacher through TEAMS or via a call to the school office.

**A reminder of Gate Opening & Closing Times – these are the functional timings that we are currently operating. All gates will close exactly on time:**

Year Group	Before School	After School
Reception	9:00-9:10am	3:00-3:10pm
Year 1	8:50-9:00am	3:15-3:30pm
Years 2 - 6	8:30-8:45am	3:15-3:30

Once gates are closed, parents will need to go to the main office. We have set up a monitoring register to ensure the same people are not just coming straight to the office. The office will only let two people in at a time. Thank you again for your patience.

A big well done to all of our children; they have been working so hard to recall all of their previous learning. The whole school tapestry is coming along nicely and the pupils are enjoying looking after the gardens too!

A reminder that after-school club and breakfast club are now open. Our new after school club is really good and a vast improvement on the last one.

**Flu Vaccinations** - These will be taking place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October for Reception to Year 6 children. This year, parents will need to complete an electronic consent form (one for each child) by visiting: <https://www.berkshireimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>. Please see attached letter for further information. If you have any further queries, please contact the Berkshire Healthcare team on 0300 365 0077.

Kind Regards,

Miss N Mehat

## Award & Honours – Week Ending 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

STARS OF THE WEEK				
Year Group	Name			
Reception	George – England	Saanvi – Wales	Melissa – Scotland	
Year 1	Jayaan – Australia	Aribah – Tonga	Mosa – Fiji	
Year 2	Taiba - Canada	Zahra K. – Jamaica	Elizah – Mexico	
Year 3	Binyameen – Ecuador	– Peru	Abdullah – Chile	
Year 4	Amber – Mozambique	Eisa – Tanzania	Riley – Morocco	
Year 5	Faateh – Hungary	Ekampreet S. – France	Ekampreet K.– Italy	
Year 6	Nazhat – Thailand	Simran – China	Ayman – Nepal	



House Points this Week					Total Year - 2020/21		
House Name (Alphabetical)							
Copper Beech			3 <sup>rd</sup>			428	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Horse Chestnut		1 <sup>st</sup>				464	1 <sup>st</sup>
Majestic Oak				4 <sup>th</sup>		411	4 <sup>th</sup>
Sycamore	2 <sup>nd</sup>					448	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Mathletics	
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Tonga
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Fiji
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Thailand
Let's Improve	Chile

## Key Messages and Reminders

### Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Learning Support Assistants x 2 – term time only
- Lunchtime Controllers x 2 – term time only

You must be able to converse in English for both roles. Please contact the office at [mail@wexhamprimary.com](mailto:mail@wexhamprimary.com) for further information and an application form. Alternatively, you can find further information on the school website in 'Working for Us' section.