



Newsletter 5

5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## ***This term's core value: Honesty***

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a good half term. As the second lockdown for us begins today and brings with it the realisation that things are not going to be back to 'normal' for a while, I have brought the newsletter forward by a week with a few important and timely messages.

Firstly, I would like to say how lucky we feel to still be in school, however many systems we have in place that we originally thought we may not have to use for long, we are currently still open and not in the position that we were in March or even June, where we could only open to some. However, as much as some parts of the new 'normal' in school can be inconvenient, we are very grateful for the fact that we are here.

In mentioning these systems I would like to give parking one small mention and that will be it I promise...

### **Parking restrictions**

As you know, at the start or end of each day myself or a member of staff have been outside asking people not to park along Aston Road. This is because we do not want parents, carers and particularly children to be walking around cars into the road. This is not because:

1. The neighbours have asked us to stop people from parking there
2. We like telling people what to do
3. We enjoy standing outside getting wet, cold and people being rude to us

This is for no other reason than the fact that **we do not want anyone to be run over.**

Buckinghamshire Health and Safety team and the PCSO's have also deemed it extremely unsafe for people to be walking out in the road, but feel that we have no other way to organise our current one way system. With the darker afternoons and tendency for worse weather, this situation is even more dangerous than when they originally visited.

As you can imagine, it is extremely busy in school and with staff confined to bubbles we have very few 'spare' (they are not really spare) to take on the role of standing out on the road for 45 minutes at the beginning and end of each day.

So, I am asking the small minority of people who do not think they have to follow our requests to keep people safe, to think again. The one way system will be here for the foreseeable future and I understand that you may be inconvenienced and have to walk further, but look at the positives rather than the negatives; your children are in school.



From tomorrow I am asking everyone to take responsibility for this themselves and will not be placing a member of staff outside the school on the road unless the problem arises again (which I am hoping it won't). We have sent the Park and Stride map out to you electronically but I am printing one off and putting them in your child's book bag for your reference.

The police have asked us to put out cones and they will issue us with police tape, but I am also hoping that we do not have to go this far.

This is everyone's responsibility please, let's all work together in the interest of everyone's safety and wellbeing.

### **Starting school**

Don't forget to apply for a school place if your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017. Visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions) to apply. The deadline for applications is midnight on 15 January 2021.

We have a virtual tour on our website and details of our next virtual presentation and question and answer session can be found here too.

<https://haddenham-st-marys.bucks.sch.uk/>

### **Poppies**

Just to remind you that we have poppies in every classroom and the children are allowed to bring in a donation to buy these.

### **Help for families of Haddenham St Mary's**

In the last lockdown we launched our 'help for Haddenham St Mary's families' campaign. We would like to re-launch this due to the current situation and in the run up to Christmas. We do not want to see any of our families go without so:

Please get in touch if your financial situation has changed dramatically. There seems to be a huge loop hole for families like this and for those who have lost income but who are not yet eligible for free school meals. If you are eligible for free school meals and are still struggling please also get in touch. We are here to support you through the huge kindness and generosity of those who have donated to our 'go fund me' account.

If your financial situation hasn't changed and you would like to, please donate:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-hsm-families-during-covid-19-crisis>

### **Children in Need**

Next Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need day. Please roll your children out of bed and send them in to school in their pyjamas for a small donation which can be made via this link.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=1208>

### **Christmas play**

We are getting excited about our Christmas play that we will be filming in bubbles this year and sending you a link to watch. We have lots of parents and carers who have signed to say that they do not want their children to be filmed and this to be used on social media or on the school website. However, this does mean that they wouldn't be able to be part of the Christmas play. If you definitely do not want your child to be part of the filming please let us know by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November**.

## Flu vaccination clinic

The school nursing service have asked us to remind parents and carers to give their consent for their child to receive the flu vaccination next week, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Further information and details of how to access the link to consent have been sent by email. Please contact the school office if you would like to receive it again.

## Extra layers

As the cold weather has quickly come upon us and we are having to keep classrooms constantly ventilated and 'refreshing the air' when children are out of the rooms by opening all doors and windows, it is definitely getting chilly in the classrooms. Please ensure that your children have plenty of layers. If your child is feeling the cold you may even send in a small blanket that they can put over them when they are sitting in the class. These would not be shared and can be returned at the end of each half term to wash. We do not want to put any more financial burden on anyone so if your child would like a blanket but does not have one to bring in to school please let us know and we will purchase one for your child.

## Birthdays

Whilst I absolutely hate to be a party pooper, government guidance is that we need to limit items being brought in from home and cannot share these items, so I'm afraid you will not be able to send in sweets or cakes for your child's birthday at the moment. However, please rest assured that with the absence of parties, we will make a huge fuss of children on their birthday. We will also have a celebration for anyone who has a birthday that week in their class bubble on a Friday.

Best wishes



Mrs Karen Collett  
Headteacher