



MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY



Bulletin: 31st January 2022

Message from Mr Hutchinson

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to focus on two areas in this newsletter: Covid and positivity.

Since our last newsletter, the government has changed some of its Covid guidance - particularly around mask wearing. In school, we are in a situation where we have had many children absent from school over the last few months with Covid as well as many members of staff who have been absent from school due to having Covid themselves or through caring for dependent family members who are required to self-isolate. The impact of these absences on the school during this time has been felt in two ways; missed learning and the extra workload that has had an effect on the wellbeing of staff. In the light of this, there will be no changes to the current mitigations that are currently in place. This means that:

- Staff to wear masks in shared spaces.
- One-way system in operation for drop-offs and pick-ups.
- All visitors to wash/sanitise hands and wear masks indoors.
- Windows open.
- Children allowed to wear extra layers to keep warm. (Plain design and close to school colours rather than patterned please.)

In recent staff training, we have been looking at the effect of positivity and self-esteem on learning and cognition in the classroom. We have chosen to pursue a path of relentless positivity in all interactions in school as an addition to the facets of the school culture that are already working well for us. We are already working hard on developing a culture of high expectations, consistency, inclusion, and coherence, so positivity should help to bring all of this together and allow us to move things forward even more. Positivity means that we are looking for the upside in every situation, relishing the challenges before us and aiming for a brighter future for all. It does not mean that we will ignore anything that might be a little negative, it just means that we will flip it around and take on the problem with a can-do attitude and the expectation that things will be better in the future - no matter how large the obstacle is.

Our motto is '**Working together to give every child the best**'. I look forward to working with you to achieve each of these approaches so that we can help to keep everyone safe and to build the culture of relentless positivity throughout the school community. Thank you for everything that you do.

Week beginning 17th January

Late arrivals – 21

U code – (arriving after registers have closed) 4

Whole school attendance – 93.4%

Week beginning 24th January

Late arrivals – 12

U code – (arriving after registers have closed) 5

Whole school attendance – 94.94%

HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Don't forget we will be running our holiday club this February half term. We plan to open for three days- Tuesday 15th Feb, Wednesday 16th Feb and Thursday 17th Feb.

To book places please complete a registration form (if your child has not been before) and then you will be able to book sessions via Eduspot.

For more details, please email us on magdalengatesoutofschoolclub55@yahoo.com

CORRECT PE KITS! – ALL PARENTS/CARERS - IMPORTANT

Although school has reminded parents/carers through newsletters (22nd November and 10th January) of our PE kit requirements we are still seeing an unacceptable level of wrong kit being worn.

*From last week, if your child came into school with incorrect PE attire, the staff in the school were asked to message parents via text to advise. **From this week the school office has been asked to contact parents by phone direct and will be asking parents to bring in the correct kit for their child. A simple PE kit can be obtained for as little as £5.50.***

<https://direct.asda.com/george/school/boys-school-polo-shirts/white-slim-fit-school-polo-shirt-2-pack/GEM574565,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C2>



[White Slim Fit School Polo Shirt 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](https://direct.asda.com/george/school/boys-school-polo-shirts/white-slim-fit-school-polo-shirt-2-pack/GEM574565,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C2)

As a school essential, why not try this pack of slim fit, white polo shirts. Made from 100% quality cotton with stain release, they provide great all day com...

direct.asda.com

<https://direct.asda.com/george/school/shorts/black-school-football-shorts-2-pack/GEM13638,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C17>



[Black School Football Shorts 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](#)

Get them ready for P.E. with these comfortable and practical football shorts. • 2 Pack • Elasticated waistband. Shop from our latest range in School.
direct.asda.com

And a tracksuit for £12.

<https://direct.asda.com/george/school/girls-sports-swimwear/black-zip-through-school-hoodie/GEM704082,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M2G1C11>



[Black Zip Through School Hoodie | School | George at ASDA](#)

Our great value zip through hoodie is made using cotton-rich fabric, perfect pick for a comfy school cover up. • Cotton-rich • 2 front pockets • Lasting...
direct.asda.com

<https://direct.asda.com/george/school/sports-swimwear/black-school-slim-leg-joggers-2-pack/GEM835227,default,pd.html?cgid=D10M1G1C8>



[Black School Slim Leg Joggers 2 Pack | School | George at ASDA](#)

• 2 pack • Elasticated waistband • Drawstring detail • Slim leg • Cotton rich. Shop from our latest range in School.
direct.asda.com

COUGHS/COLDS AND COVID

The return to a more normal school term, without lockdowns, has brought with it what were considered to be the usual winter ailments, colds, coughs and etc., Just a reminder that these winter illnesses are normal but the best way to check if it is something more (Covid) is to continue to use lateral flow tests regularly.

ISOLATION INFORMATION – COVID

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 now have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

REMINDER - The day a person tests positive with an LFT is Day Zero NOT Day 1. The above then needs to be followed.

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

HEAD LICE-NIT ALERT

Another aspect of being back in school has been the return of Head lice. Head lice are really common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact.



Head lice are small insects, up to 3mm long and they can be difficult to spot in your hair. Head lice eggs (nits) are brown or white (empty shells) and attached to the hair. They can make hair itchy and feel like something is moving in your hair. The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice.

You can do this by combing through your child's hair with a special fine-toothed comb. Pharmacies also can recommend using medicated lotions which kill head lice and you can also buy these from the pharmacy, supermarkets or online. The most important thing is to treat head lice as soon as you spot them.

Note - There is no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

You cannot prevent head lice but you parents/carers can help stop them spreading by wet or dry combing with the special head lice comb regularly to catch them early.

STREAMING TV DEVICE?

There are so many TV streaming services available now such as Netflix, Prime, apple TV, Now TV and Disney as well as more families having Smart TVs – all of which connect to the internet and allow you to download apps and access YouTube for example. This means our children potentially have access to a lot more content, some of which may not always be appropriate for them to watch. If your child does access content through these services then, as always, make sure you set parental controls so they can only view content that is suitable for their age. Remember that each service has its own parental control settings with most of them using a parental PIN so you can restrict what can be viewed (and purchased in some cases)

APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES

Does your child use your phone at times? Both Apple and Android give you the ability to restrict what can be accessed when they are using it, so you can restrict your device to the one app that your child would like to use (so all other features are disabled). Use the following links to find out how to set these up

Apple <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT202612>

Android <https://support.google.com/androidanswer/9455138?hl=en-GB>

Magdalen Gates is a nut free school.



Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties). First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens. We cannot have nuts in school in any form so please can we ask that there are **no nut products in the lunch boxes** or brought in for snacks.

For example: Peanut butter sandwiches, Nutella chocolate spread, cereal bars, some granola bars, cakes that contain nuts, peanut butter cakes. This list is not exhaustive, so please check the packaging of products closely. We appreciate that this is an additional thing to check but we hope that you recognise the importance of it. We do have to insist we are a nut free school especially as it is a life-threatening condition. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

NORFOLK CONSTABULARY INTERNET SAFETY WEBINARS FOR ALL PARENTS AND CARERS.



Dear Parents / Carers,

Keeping children safe online is a huge priority for us within the Norfolk Constabulary's Youth Engagement and Safer Schools Teams. The internet is an amazing tool, however, many of the issues the Police deal with when it comes to young people involve online behaviour. The recent Ofcom "Children and parents: media use and attitudes report" (2021) found that 97% of children aged 5 - 15 watch content on video sharing platforms. Only 30% of parents use controls to restrict their children's access to inappropriate content and just over half of 12-15s have had some form of negative online experience.

One of our Safer Schools Support Workers, along with a Safer Schools Police Officer, will be running some webinars on the dates below in which we will provide advice and guidance for parents and carers about how to keep their children safe online. We will talk about the apps and websites young people are likely to be accessing and the risks they face when using these. We will highlight some of the things that parents and carers should be aware of that might indicate that their children are experiencing difficulties online and we will give advice on what to do about this and how to have conversations about internet safety. We expect the webinar will last around an hour and there will be the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the subject.

Dates Available.

Monday 7th February at 12:00pm

Wednesday 9th February at 12:00pm

The webinar will be held on Microsoft Teams. Please email the Youth Engagement Team mailbox YouthEngagementEvents@norfolk.police.uk, stating the date you wish to attend and we will send you the link to the meeting. (Please note, you should just be able to click on the link in order to access the meeting. You do not need to download the Microsoft Teams app!)

We look forward to seeing you there.

**The Youth Engagement Team
Norfolk Constabulary.**

SAFEGUARDING – collection at the end of the day

We understand there may be times when you may need an alternative trusted adult to collect your child from school. If this is the case, please call the office on **01603 622675** or speak to a member of staff at the start of the day to ensure that we are aware and collection time can be smooth and safe for pupils. Please do not email the office with changes to who is collecting – we ask that you RING the school office. Thank you for your co-operation.

School office opening times

Please note the school office is open from 8.15 am until 3.30 pm each day to receive your phone calls or chat to you via the office window with any queries.

Diary Dates

14th February Half Term

Attachments

Anglia Square Information for all

Family Voice Newsletter

Penguins Swimming leaflet

February Football

Just One Norfolk – Info for parents (valuable resource full of information and help)

<https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>