



MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY



Bulletin: 14th March 2022

Message from Mr Hutchinson

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been just over a year since the last school closure due to Covid came to an end. Over this time, we have followed a recovery curriculum during the Summer of 2021 and then a return to more normal school from September 2021 onwards. Now that we are approaching the end of the Spring term and a year from the last lockdown, it is definitely time for school to be as normal as possible from now on. So...what does normal mean?

Normal means:

- **Coming to school every day and on time.** School starts at 8:45 every day - but children can arrive from 8:30. There are very few authorised reasons for a child to be absent from school, so it is expected that every child is at school every day. I am the attendance lead in school and will happily discuss the attendance of your child at school at any time. Mrs Huggett in the school office is also very well informed and can answer any questions about attendance. Please talk to Mrs Huggett in advance of any planned term-time holidays (which will nearly always be unauthorised, but it is better to be open and honest about it) and other reasons for absence, such as illness. Illness wise, most children are able to attend school whilst slightly unwell.
- **School uniform and correct PE should be worn on the appropriate days.** Branded school uniform or correct colours and plain black and white for PE days.
- **There are no additional Covid measures in place.** We are keeping windows open and are encouraging hand washing/sanitising throughout the day, but there are no other restrictions in place. If someone might have Covid, we will request that they take a test and isolate from school for 5 days.
- **All children learning in class.** We all know that the last two years have been difficult for many people - adults and children alike. The children have missed at least some of two terms of their normal schooling over the last two years. As well as this, they have also missed out on some social interactions and wider learning opportunities too. Our aim is for all children to be able to focus on their learning in class without disruption from others.
- **Working together to give every child the best.** As it states on our website, we all want every child to achieve their best and to be able to make choices as they move through their lives. To help them to get there, we all have a role to play. Pulling in the same direction will make this much easier. We are all on the same team - the children's team.
- **In school events for parents.** We had lovely events for World Book Day recently and are planning some celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the Summer term too. It was lovely to see so many parents in school on World Book Day, I can't wait to see everyone again at our next event.

Thank you all for everything that you are doing to support the children in school.

Attendance

Week beginning 28th February

Late arrivals - 26

Whole school attendance - 97.99%

Week beginning 7th March

Late arrivals – 21

Whole school attendance - 94.27%

WORLD BOOK DAY

What a fantastic day we had celebrating World Book Day and it was lovely see our parents and carers back in school. There was some amazing creativity with various costumes and face painting. We wanted World Book Day to be one of our highlights and it certainly was.

SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA

We have recently seen an increase in pupils with diarrhoea and sickness (Norovirus) and wished to provide advice and some simple actions that we can all take to reduce the spread.

Norovirus has been at lower levels than normal throughout the Covid pandemic. However, after guidelines changed and with people mixing more cases have started to increase again. Norovirus is highly infectious and causes vomiting and diarrhoea. It can be very unpleasant, but usually passes in a couple of days. It is easily transmitted through contact with infected individuals or contaminated surfaces.

Symptoms include onset of nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea but can also include a high temperature, abdominal pain and aching limbs. Symptoms start within 1 to 2 days of being infected.

We can help reduce the spread by washing hands frequently with soap and warm water and if experiencing symptoms, stay at home. The advice by the NHS website and Public Health England is not to return to work or send children to school until 48 hours after symptoms have cleared.

Other Illness Absences from school

If there is an occasion when you are a little unsure as to whether your child is well enough to attend school, we are always happy for you to call and speak direct to us.

RED NOSE DAY – 18th MARCH



If your child would like to join in with the celebrations by wearing RED to school that day, please follow the Just Giving link below and donating £1. Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Comic Relief, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.



JustGiving™

REMEMBER WE DO NOT ACCEPT CASH IN SCHOOL

You can donate to my JustGiving page by clicking here:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/magdalen-gates-primary-school2?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=magdalen-gates-primary-school2&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=7dde1d9f902498daa40ff952e73af80.

COMMUNICATION

We are delighted that the children are now taking part in a lot more school trips and visits this term. Please keep a close check on your emails and bookbags/pockets. If your contact details ie., telephone, email, home address has changed **please contact the school office** so we can ensure our records are up to date and so you receive information sent to you. All children must have parent carer consents to be able to attend trips or events. If school has asked you to complete a consent form, please do this at the earliest opportunity so we can complete all of our checks and make necessary arrangements before the event. Many thanks.

YR6 RESIDENTIAL TO BOREATTON



Year 6- Notes from the children

On Monday 28th February 23 of the year 6s took a 6-hour coach journey to Boreatton Park, Shropshire. We did lots of activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, abseiling, rock climbing, Jacobs ladder and giant swing.

“My favourite thing was the zip wire “by Sybil.

“My favourite activities were giant swing. I also loved everything else because it was a great experience” by Ryla.

“I liked the PGL trip because I got the chance to go abseiling. Even though I was scared I still did it and now I feel better” by Tom.

BIG NORFOLK EASTER HOLIDAY FUN

After the success of the 2021 Holiday Activity programme we are delighted that the big Norfolk Festive Holiday fun is again offering exciting activities for children aged between 5-16 is taking place in the Easter Holidays.

The scheme runs from the 4th to the 19th April and is FREE for all children who are on means tested free school meals. Any child can take part in the Big Norfolk Festive Holiday fun but the priority is to promote the scheme to children in receipt of free school meals. Families of non-eligible children would have to pay for the activities.

If your child has FSM and you would like your child to participate please come to the school office where we can give you a code which will enable you to book FREE OF CHARGE. Please see the information attached to this newsletter for more info!

REMINDER

We do ask parents to inform the class teacher at the beginning of the day if there are changes to which adults are picking up at the end of the day. The office@email is not manned after 2:30pm. If you need to advise of any last minute alternative collection arrangements up for children, please call the office direct on 01603 622675.

DIARY DATES

Wed 16 th	Yr3	Residential trip – How Hill
Thur 17 th	Yr4	Food Discovery session – gardening
Fri 18 th	All	Red Nose Day
Tue 22 nd	Yr2 (group 1)	Allotment Science visit
Wed 23 rd	EYFS & Yr1	Dentist (letter were sent to individual parents)
Fri 25 th	Yr1-Yr6	Reports sent to parents – By Email
Mon 28 th	All Years	Slots available for parents if required.
Tue 29 th	Yr2 (group 2)	Allotment Science visit
Fri 1 st April	All Years	Last day before school closes for Easter break

Attachments

Big Norfolk Easter Holiday fun flyer

Mindfulness information

Can Connect – virtual coffee morning

Norovirus – Public Health England

Big Norfolk
Holiday Fun

Easter!

April 4 - April 19th

- Holiday activity scheme for children aged 5-16
- Free for all families eligible for means tested free school meals
- Fun, fitness and creative activities for your child plus a free healthy lunch too



Booking opens

Monday 21 February

Ask your school for your booking code

Visit www.activenorfolk.org.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun



MINDFULNESS FOR MENTAL WELL-BEING



Hello my name is Paula I am a qualified mindfulness teacher my passion is helping adults and children with their mental well-being. Having suffered over the years myself with my mental health I am motivated to share the gift of mindfulness with others. For me mindfulness saved me, it saved me from my over thinking mind.

I am excited to be able to share with you some tools to help you understand and work with your mind.

For more information take a browse at my website

www.mindfulnessspace.co.uk



These coffee mornings are for anyone aged 18+ and will run at 10am on the final Friday of each month! Although virtual for now, we hope to host these coffee mornings in person in the future.

Friday 25th February - Energy Saving hosted by Steve Nunn from Community Action Norfolk

Friday 25th March - Mindfulness by Paula Vale

We hope you can make it! For details on how to sign up, please contact Natasha Jackson via natasha.jackson@communityactionnorfolk.org.uk or phone Ellie Coldham on 01362 545028.



Stop norovirus spreading this winter

Norovirus, sometimes known as the 'winter vomiting bug', is the **most common stomach bug** in the UK, affecting people of all ages. It is **highly contagious** and is transmitted by contact with contaminated surfaces, an infected person, or consumption of contaminated food or water.

The symptoms of norovirus are very distinctive – people often report a sudden onset of **nausea** followed by **projectile vomiting and watery diarrhoea**.



Good hand hygiene is important to stop the spread of the virus.

People are advised to:

- Wash their hands thoroughly using soap and water and drying them after using the toilet, before preparing food and eating
- Not rely on alcohol gels as these do not kill the virus

An infection with norovirus is self-limiting and most people will make a full recovery in 1-2 days. It is important to keep hydrated – especially children and the elderly.

Do not visit either A&E or GPs with symptoms as this may spread the virus.

Further information and advice is available from NHS 111, including an online symptom checker at [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk).

