

Dear Parents/Carers

Remote Learning

We would like to thank you for your hard work, kind comments and feedback that we have received over these last few weeks regarding our remote learning. It has been tough on everybody and I know that children are looking forward to seeing their friends again on Monday.

Wrap Around Care Breakfast club and More Moorfield will resume where this provision is needed to support parents to work, attend education or access medical care. Once again, this provision is organised in bubbles which incorporate three classes in each group. If and when restrictions are lifted later in the academic year, we will work to quickly restore our extracurricular activities, but for the moment these unfortunately remain cancelled.

Face Coverings

The advice on face coverings has changed several times since children began back to school in September. Yesterday we received the following message from the Department for Education regarding face coverings:

“Children in primary schools do not need to wear a face covering and they should not be asked to wear one. Dr Susan Hopkins, the Chief Medical Adviser for NHS Test and Trace, has said that ‘the consensus among educationalists, public health and clinical specialists is that it is not advisable for primary school children to wear face coverings. That is why Public Health England has not recommended to the Department for Education that they should be worn by primary pupils in the classroom. Children need to see facial expressions to develop their communication and language skills and practically, they can have difficulties keeping them on all day.’”

As has been the case from September, if you wish your child to wear a face covering in school, they will continue to be allowed to do so, but children will be expected to manage this themselves.

We continue to ask that parents wear a face covering when on the school site, observe a two-metre distance from each other and leave promptly once you have collected your child.

Start and Finish Times

Staggered start and finish times remain. If you have more than one child in school, you may drop all the children off at the earliest start time for the Base and pick up at the latest finish time. However, if you are not dropping off siblings, please make sure you do not arrive on the school site until the allotted time or if you need to arrive earlier, use Breakfast Club.

Thank you.

BASE	START TIME	PICK UP TIME
1 Year 5/6	8.50-9.00	3.15
2 Year 5	8.50-9.00	3.15
3 Year 3	8.40-8.50	3.05
4 Year 5	8.50-9.00	3.15
5 Year 3	8.40-8.50	3.05
6 Year 6	8.40-8.50	3.05
7 Year 2	8.30-8.40	3.00
8 Year 1	8.30-8.40	2.55
9 Reception	8.30-8.40	2.55

Car Parking

With reduced numbers of children in school we have allowed parents to drive on and off the school site over these last few weeks. **From Monday we are requesting that the car park is not used by parents between 8:30 and 3:30 unless you have prior permission from the office.** This is primarily for the safety of the children and to prevent traffic from backing up onto the main road.

Returning of Laptops

If you have borrowed a laptop, please return it to the main office and ensure that a member of staff is present to sign that the device has been returned into school.

Catch Up

There has been quite a lot written in the press recently about children being behind with their learning and needing to 'catch up.'

It is now eleven weeks since the children broke up for the Christmas holidays. Our priority when all the children return on Monday will be to ensure that they start to re-establish routines within a friendly and supportive environment. It is from this foundation that effective learning can take place.

We have been provided with a comparatively modest amount of additional funding to support 'catch up' and we are exploring the best way that this can be delivered. We are mindful of many factors when considering this. For example, all children need a broad and balanced curriculum - simply doubling the time that a child spends on a particular subject will not mean that they make twice as much progress. We are also making sure that we are not putting unnecessary pressure on children – telling them that they are behind with their learning will serve little useful purpose and could be detrimental to their wellbeing.

COVID-19

It is important that we continue to be vigilant in reporting possible COVID-19 infections.

Please can you continue to email – sue.hedges@taw.org.uk if you or a member of your family are being tested or test positive. This email address will be monitored over the weekend for this purpose.

If you, your child or another member of your family are being tested, you should all stay at home until you get the result.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

You should also get a test if you or any of your family have any of these 'precautionary' symptoms:

- Headaches
- Aches and pains
- Feeling very tired for no good reason
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Tummy ache in children

You can book online at nhs.uk/coronavirus

When booking for these precautionary symptoms, make sure you answer the question 'Why are you asking for a test' with 'My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone) I live with to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms'

It's never been easier to get a test. There are now seven Coronavirus testing sites in Telford and Wrekin that you can book a test at with lots of capacity.

PTA

Earlier this week we sent out some information about the Moorfield PTA March through March activity and information about a PTA meeting. At this meeting, Laura Franklin resigned as her son is coming to the end of his time at Moorfield School. Laura wanted to express how much she has enjoyed her time helping out with the PTA and a goodbye letter is attached.

We are currently looking for a Treasurer for the PTA , so if you are interested please just let us know.

WORLD BOOK DAY – Don't forget!

This year we have decided to hold World Book day on Thursday 11th March when all the children are back in school. Each base will be involved with events based around this theme. We don't want to place unnecessary burden on parents with this activity so we are giving the children three options for what they can wear on the day:

- 1) Dress up as your favourite book character
- 2) Come to school in your pyjamas
- 3) Come to school in your school uniform as normal.

We are looking forward to welcoming everybody into school next week and genuinely hope that from this point onwards we can start to slowly return to normality.

Thank you as ever for your continued support.

Ian Bussey

Headteacher