



Parent Newsletter – Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid 19 – information

As you are aware London is now subject to Tier 2 of Covid-19. This has increased the restrictions on families and social mixing generally.

More information can be found on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-high>

We are doing everything we can to ensure that infection rates stay as low as possible in school. Please remember social distancing on the playground and travelling to school and remember that we are requiring face coverings on the playground at the start and end of the school day.

Please also remember that these measures are in place to ensure that transmission rates are managed and do your bit; I know it is difficult when you need or want to see family and friends, but please remember that the restrictions are in the interests of the whole community.

If you are considering travel away from home during half term, that you observe all relevant restrictions and if you are staying at home, that you restrict your social contacts as much as possible.

Staggered starts and finish times

We have been reviewing our start and finish procedures, as we said we would through the term. I know you are aware of the need for us to manage the influx of families as you drop your children to school, and would ask that you follow the following procedures.

1. When dropping off, please keep your children with you and do not allow them to roam or mix with other children outside your children's bubble as this makes it very hard for us if a diagnosis for someone comes back positive. To date this has not occurred but with cases rising we want to do all that we can to avoid an outbreak and keep classes and the school open. We can't effectively track and trace if there is contact between bubbles.
2. Please keep your children with you on the playground if you are waiting for your child's start time. Please stay with your children. I think there has been a relaxation of the feeling for the necessity of this, but we all need to work together to make these procedures safe. Please do not leave your child on the playground prior to their start time.
3. Please be aware that the car park is just that. We have used the front doors as a way of separating bubbles but my concern is that the children waiting in the car park are, as might be expected for children, unaware of the need to be watchful for vehicles. Please keep your children close.

We will continue to review our procedures, but, owing to the increasing restrictions imposed, it is unlikely that we will be able to relax this any time soon. I know it is difficult for working parents, but it is necessary.

Wednesday Word

I sent the Wednesday Word out on Wednesday. It is a booklet which covers the weekend up to the end of half term. I attach it again to this newsletter. I still believe it is a very good way of maintaining some family prayer life with your children at a time when not everyone can attend Mass and we are not holding collective worship in school in the same way.

Margaret Roper virtual tour

I am delighted to say that we have launched our virtual tour of the school on the school website. This is for prospective parents for next year, but also for everyone else too. We are sharing the link on social media and encourage you to send the link or refer it to any friends who may be looking for school places and to your contacts generally. At a time when we cannot hold open sessions in school in person, it is important that the information is in the public domain.

Do have a look at it. The tour allows visitors to look at areas of the school and get a sense of the school as a whole and I think that the team who prepared it have done a very good job. You can find it on the front page of our website www.margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk

Dogs on the playground

Parents who are dog owners will know what a dog nut I am. However, perhaps owing to the fact that our start and finishes are different to normal, we are seeing more dogs on and around the playground. While lots of us love dogs, not everyone does and we also have the potential for fouling. The small area near the alley gate has always been our 'dog zone' and I would ask that you please observe this and restrict your dogs to this area for the comfort and safety of all. Please don't take your dogs onto the playground or walk them round the site. Thank you.

School uniform

Further to my item in last week's newsletter, please ensure that your child is in smart full winter school uniform. This includes ties and correct hair bobbles and school coats. School uniform is important and we want to maintain our standards. PLEASE make sure items are labelled. More on this to follow...

Stars of the week

In our virtual assembly this morning we said well done to the following stars of the week from each class.

Orange Class –	Meghan & Thandi
Yellow Class –	Ashvini & Gabrielle
Green Class –	Seb & Jacob
Blue Class –	Mia & Jaydan
Indigo Class –	Santi & Lawrie
Amethyst Class –	Ryan & Alaina
Violet Class –	Anna & Sasha

Have a lovely weekend

Mr. Mooney

Attachments

- Wednesday Word