

Hethersett Woodside Primary & Nursery School



Coachmaker Way, Hethersett, Norwich NR9 3GN

Tel: 01603 810674

Email: office@hethersettwoodside.norfolk.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr Jem Brereton

01/04/2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just before we break up for the Easter holidays, I would like to update you all on several items.

Travel

We continue to make progress with the great challenge of ensuring that the community travels to school safely.

Firstly, thank you to all who participated so actively in the recent *Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel*. It has a huge impact when families are able to travel to school without the use of a car. Please remember, if you are driving, by far the most convenient and safest place to park is the village hall at the back of the school. There are always spaces and it is just a short walk away along the enclosed path from Back Lane.

We have also recently been seeking the support of PC Stuart Banard in effort to encourage safer driving around school. PC Banard has spent some time outside the front of school monitoring travel. Thankfully, no fines have needed to be issued for improperly stopping or parking on the yellow zig-zags. We continue to monitor this and are thankful for all those who respect this crucial safety measure.

Apologies, they have taken a little while to get going, but we have set up a permit system for on-site parking. These are only for a very few families who need the use of the school car park for special circumstances. If you currently have an agreement to use our car park or you wish to apply to use it, please complete a short form. This can be found [here](#).





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COVID-19

It has been a very challenging half-term, keeping the school running with lots of staff absence to manage, amid rising cases. Thankfully, positive cases have reduced significantly this week. Most importantly, all those who have tested positive have recovered well.

I am very sorry for all the disruption caused and sorry if, while staffing has been limited, support for your children has been impacted. We hope to get back to normal after the break but thank you for your patience and understanding.

There have been more changes to national guidance. The government set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England. Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends today.

Updated guidance advises the following:

- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days



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Staffing

We continue to build our team of staff, as we grow. We are pleased to announce some new members of our team after the holidays. Mr Alex Spencer will be joining us on a temporary basis as a teacher in Year Four. We also welcome Miss Annabel Daugaard-Hansen. She will be working across the school in a teaching assistant role. Miss Rosie Norton joins our Breakfast and After School Club team and Miss Rebecca Partridge joins our cleaning team.

You will also see a familiar face around school after Easter! Mrs Jermy just could not keep away! We are pleased that she has kindly offered to work as a volunteer in school. She joins a team of volunteers, whose time and effort we are always grateful for.

As we get ready for next academic year, there will be lots of recruitment happening over the next few months. Soon a series of adverts will go live for some of the roles we have available for 2022/23. Look out on the [Education Job Finder](#) website for middle leader, teaching and clerical assistant positions if you are interested or know someone who would like to come and work with us. More vacancies to follow in the coming months.

Free School Meal Holiday Vouchers

Some families had been in receipt of vouchers over the recent holiday periods. Unfortunately, the government funding for this has now ceased so there will be no vouchers issued over Easter.

We will always do our best to support you if things are difficult by signposting to relevant charities and organisations. There is no shame in asking for help so please get in contact if you need it.



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Lost Property

Finally, please check the lost property unit on return. We will be having a general spring clean around school and any items left will be put here. On Friday 22nd April, we will clear lost property and any unclaimed items will either be donated to charity or recycled.

We will be in contact soon but, as ever, always feel welcome to get in touch if you have any queries. In the meantime, please remember we have a community forum each half-term where we can work together and you can give feedback on how to improve our school. It is also a good idea to check our [News & Events](#) and [Term Dates](#) pages regularly, for other useful information.

Enjoy a restful Easter break.

Kind regards

Jem Brereton

Headteacher

