



Willow Brook News

November 2nd 2020

head@willowbrook.notts.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have thoroughly enjoyed your half term break together and feel recharged and ready to go as we focus on the weeks ahead.

With the news yesterday of a four-week lockdown, it is increasingly important that our community continues to work together to uphold a safe environment in which Willow Brook children can continue to learn and play. The Government have updated their guidance to parents and full details can be found by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Whilst it is hard to maintain social distancing with young children, our groups and bubbles, handwashing, increased cleaning and ventilation will continue to provide a high level of care, as will our classroom management and timetables.

As we move forward, we politely ask you to continue to show your care for our community by maintaining social distancing and not gathering as you bring and collect your children from school. We also ask that you do not bring your children too early. Our staggered start and finish times are in place to allow for a distanced flow of people.

We understand that the temperature has dropped and we will endeavour to maintain warm classrooms whilst making sure that the air continues to circulate. Staff will be rotating open windows and doors and making sure that regular breaks are well used to provide important ventilation. I would never want to see children who are cold or having to sit in their coats – I know that I couldn't work in those conditions. Please do, however, make sure that children have jumpers/cardigans so that they are comfortable.

Please continue to keep us informed of your family's situation if any members of the household display Covid symptoms. It is vital that your child isolates if that is required and that we mark their absence accurately. In return, we will be able to monitor and respond to any health concerns in school and act quickly and proportionately if any concerns arise. We will also be able to provide home learning resources swiftly for any children who will miss the entire week due to pandemic-related situations.

The next half term is usually filled with the joys of advent...with performance and joint celebration, shared topic work and family events. Even with such restricted ways of working, we will do our best to inject some whole-school projects, days of fun and memorable festivities. We are already plotting! We will also make sure that in a time where it is hard for our children to celebrate their birthdays with their friends, that a simple time each week to bring their special day to everyone's attention is on the agenda! And then there's Children in Need day on Friday

13th November. Watch out for the return of The Live Duck Race and ways you can contribute to an important fund-raising day. There's lots to look forward to!

Finally, could I draw your attention to the fact that Willow Brook has been resurfaced over the half term break. As of yesterday when I went to school, the yellow lines have not been re-painted on the road. It goes without saying that we ask you to respect the section of road by the gate where children cross and not stop or park in the area between the school drive and the end of the bus stop. It is going to be a warm Monday morning – perfect for a walk...

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow, bright and (not too) early!

With kind regards,

Louise Ballard