



Harwell Community Primary School
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Dear Parents,

Your children have been amazing. It is such a pleasure having all the classes in school. When I go on my checks around the school, I am treated to many a beaming smile of simple joy at being back in school. Thank you.

During this first full week, we have been trying to settle the children back and to return to as much normality as we can, whilst not forgetting that we are in the midst of a pandemic.

We are able to bring in external teachers and specialists within our visitor protocols. We are hoping to start music lessons soon as well as starting Wizard theatre groups too (although, we will need to narrow the groupings a little).

Our assembly this week (completed through Google Meet) had the focus of kindness (one of the school rules) and we have been celebrating the kindness that we have seen in and around the school.

With this in mind, I would like to thank you for your kind words at the gate and in your emails. They are very much appreciated. While the children have been amazing, it has been an exhausting week trying to make sure everything is in the right place and constantly trying to make adjustments.

I hope that you and the children will spare some time to be kind to yourselves at the weekend. Everyone's a little tired after the full week back and need to have a rest. I will certainly be encouraging the staff to do this as they have been amazing once again.

The routines at the start and end of the day are becoming smoother as people are more familiar with it. The minor tweaks to Year 3, 4 & 5 have helped but please remember to keep your distance. Orchard way is still a little more congested than I would like so I need your help.

Year 2 and 6 parents, please can you keep left as you approach the gate and then keep left as you leave. This will create a one-way system and so alleviate some of the pinch points. Equally, if you can delay your arrival by a few minutes to avoid the rush, then that will also help.

Whilst on the COVID topic, if you or anyone in your household has coronavirus symptoms please let the school know. Children and siblings will need to isolate until the test results are known and then follow the appropriate [guidance](#).

The COVID symptoms are:

- a high-temperature (Fever [as defined by the NHS - see link](#))
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

It is coming into the cold season and children will have runny noses and sore throats. If they are not displaying COVID related symptoms, and they are well enough to come into school, then please do bring them in. I appreciate people's caution but please do refer to the COVID symptoms if you are unsure. We do not mind being contacted if you do want to check.

However, if they are too unwell to come in, the usual routines are still in effect.

Please let the office know (via email if possible).

If your child is not in and you have not told us (email or calling), then we will have to call as part of our attendance checks.

Thank you for your patience with all of our routines and systems. With your help, we are doing everything that we can to keep the school running smoothly and staying open.

Have a lovely weekend - Be kind, Be Safe and Be Your Best.

Warm regards,

Bryn Gibson