



Newsletter 3

22nd October 2020

Can you help us?

As you know, we love to encourage reading at Thackley and are always looking for new ways to replenish our library and classroom book corners. This year, we would really like to be able to have a Book Advent Calendar in every classroom.



This involves each class being given 24 wrapped books, which the children take turns to unwrap every day in the countdown to Christmas. The books are then added to the book corner in the class for children to read and borrow. We did this a few years ago and it was a huge success, with children being so engaged that the books ended up with a waiting list of children who wanted to borrow them to read! Unfortunately, our school budget would struggle to provide this so we are looking for a small business (or a number of businesses) who may want to sponsor the Book Advent Calendar. The overall cost is expected to be approximately £2500. If any company was able to offer part or whole sponsorship, we would include their company name and logo in an insert that would be stuck in each book and we would publicise their generosity in our newsletter and on our social media pages. If you can help, please contact us for more details.



Drop off & Pick up Improvements

Thank you to everyone who has adopted our staggered start and finish procedures—we really appreciate your support in making this so successful. However, we have been reviewing our procedures and listening to feedback and have found a few ways to improve the process further. We know many of you need drop off to be as quick as possible as you need to get to work. Therefore we would like to ask that you:



- Adhere to the Social Distancing guidelines when queuing at the gates and we recommend that adults wear a mask.
- Contact your child's teacher by phone or email if you need a word and try and avoid a conversation at the gate—we have found that this is difficult to do whilst maintaining a 2m distance from the staff and is also making it take longer to get the children into school.
- Please do not bring dogs with you when queuing at the gates.
- Only 1 adult to drop off so we can reduce numbers in the queue and make social distancing easier.
- Don't arrive too early. We have noticed people arriving a long time before their gate opens which is adding to the congestion around school.
- Please queue respectfully and do not push in. We are putting these procedures in place to speed up the drop off times as we do appreciate that many of you are in a rush.

Please work with us to make the start of the school day run as smoothly as possible. These times are difficult for us all so we need to work together—Thank you.

Wrap up warm!

In order to ensure good air circulation in classrooms we will be keeping windows open, even in the colder months. We have got the heating on but it is still a bit chilly sometimes. Please make sure that your child has an extra layer to wear **under their uniform** if they are feeling cold! A plain white t-shirt or vest, a white football 'skin' or even a white thermal top would all be suitable. We still want our children to look smart in their uniforms so we do ask that the extra layer goes under their clothes and is plain white. Thank you for your support



Government Guidelines

The COVID alert level for our area is currently HIGH. This means there are lots of things we cannot do in our area. Unfortunately, we are hearing from a small number of our children that they have had a sleep over at a friend's house or even attended a party! It is absolutely vital that you follow the government guidelines. We are working incredibly hard in school to prevent the spread of COVID but we need you at home to do your bit too.



- You must not meet socially with friends and family indoors in any setting unless you live with them or have formed a support bubble with them. This includes private homes, and any other indoor venues such as pubs and restaurants.
- You may continue to see friends and family you do not live with (or have not formed a support bubble with) outside, including in a garden or other outdoor space. When you do so, you must not meet in a group of more than 6. This limit of 6 includes children of any age.
- Meeting in larger groups is against the law. There are certain exceptions (see below). The police can take action against you if you meet in larger groups. This includes breaking up illegal gatherings and issuing fines (fixed penalty notices).
- You can be fined £200 for the first offence, doubling for further offences up to a maximum of £6,400. If you hold, or are involved in holding, an illegal gathering of over 30 people, the police can issue fines of £10,000.
- If you live in a high alert level area you also cannot meet indoors with people outside of the area, unless exceptions apply.

Please ensure you keep up to date with any changes to government guidance in these ever changing, difficult times.

Uniform

Our children always look so smart in their school uniform and they wear it with pride! Can we just remind parents that children should be wearing black school shoes. Can we also ask that long hair is tied back. This is particularly important at the moment as we are trying to discourage children from touching their hair and face. Small hair clips or a small head band may be worn but no large Jo-Jo style bows or cats ear headbands please.



No Nuts!

We are a nut free school! Please can we ask that children do not bring any products containing nuts in their packed lunch or for playtime snack. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies who would be at extreme risk if they were to come into contact with nuts.



Rainbow Club

Before School Care

7.30-Start of school for £4 a day, including breakfast for children who arrive before 8am



After School Care

3.00-6.00pm for £8 a day including a snack and a drink

Please speak to Mrs Faye Hogarth, our new Rainbow Club Manager, or email rainbowclub@thackleyschool.com for more information.

Please note, when collecting your child from Rainbow Club, you must ring the school mobile number and we will bring your child to the gate at the Zebra crossing. Please do not ring the school office.

Rainbow Mobile: 07543184081

Symptoms and testing for COVID-19

In these worrying times, we ask that parents are vigilant in looking out for signs of illness. Public Health England recommend that people should seek a test if:

- 1) they develop one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or the loss or change of their sense of taste or smell;
- 2) they are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse). If a child develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms described above, only they should be tested. There is no need for their households to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic.

We ask that you keep your child at home if they display any of these symptoms, however minor they may seem.



What happens at school

If a child is in school and begins to display any symptoms of COVID, they will immediately be taken to our Quarantine Area. A member of staff will stay with them but will wear full PPE. You will be contacted by phone and we ask that you make arrangements to collect your child immediately.

Your child should then self isolate at home for 10 days. You will be required to arrange a COVID test for your child. Household contacts should self isolate for 14 days unless the test is found to be negative. If negative, please share this result with us and your child can return to school.

If your child's test is positive, you must inform school immediately. We will then notify Public Health England Health Protection Team and the Local Authority who will advise us on our next steps as a school. This may include us closing a class or year group pod.

If you or a member of your household are displaying symptoms, please arrange for a test immediately. <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

Contacting School

We do realise that it is not as easy to communicate with class teachers at the start and end of the day at the moment. Do feel that you can give us a ring, or send an email, if you have any concerns or questions. You can email admin@thackleyschool.com or use the year group email system that we set up during lockdown. Staff will respond to messages in good time but not late in the evenings or at weekends.

Nursery & Reception - earlyyears@thackleyschool.com

1B & 1L - yearone@thackleyschool.com

2E & 2RO - yeartwo@thackleyschool.com

3C & 3I - yearthree@thackleyschool.com

4B & 4W - yearfour@thackleyschool.com

5MI & 5FJ - yearfive@thackleyschool.com

6P & 6K - yearsix@thackleyschool.com



Virtual Balloon Race

Don't forget to buy a balloon for our Virtual Balloon Race! There are some great prizes on offer. The email with the link was sent last week or see our Facebook page for more information.



Pumpkin Competition

Look out for an email about our Virtual Pumpkin Competition that we are holding this half term! Check out the entries on Facebook and vote for your favourite!



Annual Data Collection Sheets & Media Policy

Thanks to all who have returned their data collection sheet. You should also have received an emailed copy of the Media Policy, and a paper copy of the Media Permission Form. Please return this to school asap. If you have any questions or are unsure about whether to give permissions for photographs, please ring the office for a chat.



Foodbank Donations

Thank you to all who donated to our collection for the Bradford North Foodbank.

School Closes

Don't forget that school closes for half term on **Thursday 22nd October**.

Friday is a staff training day so school is closed to children. We reopen on Monday 2nd November.

Have a wonderful half term break.
Please stay safe and take care.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A. Patterson
Headteacher

