



Huntington Community Primary School Newsletter

May 28th, 2021

Diary Dates

June

7th School re-opens
Environment Week
11th *Wear it Wild* day
9th Class photos
14th Refugee Week
15th Y5 Maya expert
21st Sports Week
28th Individual photos
29th Class swap day

July

5-16th Parent/teacher meetings
21st INSET (pupils not in)
22nd Summer break

A new landscape

The easing of restrictions has brought some measure of relief for many families, and the hope that come September we will be in a very different place. However, inevitably, this easing has led to a rise in infections and the first positive cases in school for many months, with the very unfortunate consequence of the closure of two school bubbles right at the end of the half-term, and the dispiriting requirement for pupils to self-isolate over the holiday. We have entered a difficult period, with disruption to education through bubble closures likely to increase and no clear indication that the vaccination programme will impact on national guidance regarding contact tracing. We will do what we can to minimise the impact of this situation, and we trust that parents/carers will understand the need to do the same, by embracing the new freedoms cautiously.

Drop-off/pick-up by adults outside your household

One change that has occurred relates to the guidance for drop-off/pick-up. Previously, only members of your household, support bubble or childcare bubble were allowed to escort your children to/from school. However, childcare bubbles have been discontinued, and other adults may now collect your children (following your receipt of permission to do so by the school office). However, direct advice from CWAC PHE is clear – despite this relaxation, parents/carers are still advised to **minimise the number of different people you send to collect your children.**

Half-term break contact-tracing: **PLEASE READ**

Schools have again been asked to assist with pupil/staff contact-tracing over the start of the half-term break, since the contact tracing period extends back 2 days before a person develops symptoms. In practice, this means that your child could still be asked to self-isolate if we receive news of a child developing symptoms at any time up to midnight on Sunday, May 30th, who then goes on to test positive.

Please note the following very carefully:

- **Until midnight on Sunday, May 30th** If your child develops Coronavirus symptoms (or tests positive with an LFD test), please inform the school as soon as you can, using the head's email address (head@huntington.cheshire.sch.uk) and book a full test (PCR) immediately. Please then **let us know the result of the test**, using the same email address.
- We may need to contact year groups and ask them to self-isolate for 10 days in the event of a positive test. If no reports of children with symptoms are received by midnight on Sunday, and all testing already initiated has been completed, we will send out a text on Monday informing you of that.
- **After midnight on Sunday, May 30th** Do not contact the school if your child develops Coronavirus symptoms (or tests positive with an LFD test) but book a PCR test as normal and follow any instructions from Test & Trace that you may receive.
- **From Sunday, June 6th:** please follow the normal guidance – do not attend school if your child or anyone in your household or support bubble has symptoms of Coronavirus (or tests positive with an LFD test) and let us know of this as soon as possible (over weekends/evenings via the head's email address).

Obviously we hope not to need to contact anyone regarding self-isolation, but if this is necessary we trust that families will continue to follow the [national guidance](#).

Outstanding Behaviour

The winners of the KS2 individual behaviour prizes are as below - and well done to the other children whose behaviour has been exemplary.

Y3 Birch: Michael Mundy
Y4 Hawthorn: Rилley Walker
Y5 Larch: Cameron Anderson
Y6 Alder: Henry Welsh

Y3 Hazel: Poppy Griffiths
Y4 Lime: Millie Hooper
Y5 Rowan: Clea Coleridge-Hughes
Y6 Sycamore: Freddie Newbrook

School events

Despite the recent cancellation of the last residential visit left standing, the Y6 visit to the Conway Centre, due to Welsh government restrictions, we continue to strive for as normal an experience for the children in school, extending now to planned day visits beyond the school grounds (e.g. Year 3's upcoming visit to Caldy Nature Park and Sandy Lane as part of their river studies – click [HERE](#) for our interactive online page).

Sports Day is to be replaced by Sports Week, during which the various year groups will participate in the usual events, although sadly without a parent/carer audience: this is scheduled for the week beginning June 21st.

Two weeks of wider-focus learning will also take place in the next half-term:

- Environment Week is June 7-11th, culminating in the *Wear it Wild* fundraiser day on Friday June 11th (voluntary contributions for the WWF via *School Money* – dress to impress on an animal theme!)
- Refugee Week is June 14-18th, with learning opportunities to be provided via a focus on texts exploring the refugee experience.

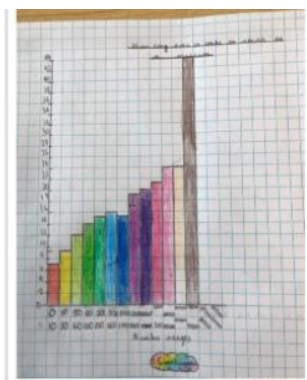
Friends across the World

Despite the pandemic, technology enables us to keep in touch with distant friends, and yesterday our Year 2 pupils once more took part in a video link with pupils from Westcott Primary in Cape Town, South Africa. The children shared questions and answers about their schools and countries, with their work part of a project comparing Huntington with Cape Town – click [HERE](#) to visit our online Cape Town learning zone.



National Numeracy Day

on May 19th was celebrated with activities in all classes – here are some images from the day.



Free School Meal Provision

Parents whose children receive benefits-related free school meals should have received a voucher for the half-term holiday period via the Wonde platform, CWAC having allocated funds from the Covid Local Support Scheme to individual schools. Please contact the school (head@ address) if you do not receive the voucher (£20 per child).

Other Help Available for Families

All the help available for families can be found on the 'Useful resources and information for the school holidays' webpage on the Council website:

- Visit: [Useful resources and information for the school holidays](#)

Some of the help available includes:

The Welcome Network

The Welcome Network are commissioned by the Council to join up local community food offers. They have produced an interactive map showing where and how local food can be obtained in each area. For full details:

- Visit: [Interactive map on the Welcome Network website](#)

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme provides financial support for people who are on a low income and need help to pay their council tax. There is a discretionary fund alongside the main scheme.

- Visit: [Council Tax Reduction](#)

The Discretionary Housing Payment scheme

The Discretionary Housing Payment scheme is available to help people who receive Universal Credit or Housing Benefit where the amount awarded in benefits does not pay their full rent. This scheme can help with the shortfall in some circumstances or can help people on benefits with rent in advance to secure a property.

Visit: [DHP](#)

Homeless2Housed

Homeless2Housed is a short-term project in 2020/21 to provide support for people who are at risk of losing their home or to secure a property. They can sometimes help with rent arrears and rent in advance.

Contact them initially by email on H2H@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Test and Trace

Test and trace payments of £500 can be made when somebody who is working loses pay because they are told to isolate when they have Covid symptoms or they have been in contact with somebody with symptoms and are told to isolate by test and trace. From 8/3/21 parents who are unable to work from home can also apply if their child is required to isolate and they have caring responsibilities.

Visit: [Test and Trace](#)

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Lightning Danger

Following the recent tragic death of a child in the UK from a lightning strike, parents/carers are reminded to take precautions in the event of summer storms – click [HERE](#) to access this advice.

Asthma and other advice

We have also recently added a link on our website's *Health and Safety* page to advice from Asthma UK about the use of asthma inhalers – click [HERE](#) to access the page for this and other advice.



How to use your inhaler

Best wishes for the half-term break
Mr Rose