



HALTON LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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YEAR 6 NEWSLETTER

22nd June 2020

We are greatly looking forward to 9 of our Year 6 children returning to school tomorrow.

For those parents and carers whose children are returning, we would like to remind you that the children will need to be dropped off at the main school gate leading to the main entrance – at 8:40am. *We ask that you do not arrive early or, if you do, that you wait across the road, so that we can admit the children in the Priority Group – to avoid the children in different ‘bubbles’ from mixing.*

To help you to maintain social distancing, when you arrive, we have marked the railings out at the front of the school building with white markings – these are 2 metres apart.



If you need to queue, please stand 2 metres apart – using the white markings on the railings as a guide. We are asking the parents/carers who are dropping off at the hall doors to queue to the right of these gates.

You should also stand 2 metres apart when you come to collect your child at 2:30pm

When the gate is opened at 8:40am, your child will be greeted by one of the Year 6 team (Miss Whiting or Mrs Wright); along with either Mr Hilldrup or Mrs Ellis. They will be asked to visit a hand sanitising station before standing on one of the footprint markers as they wait to walk into the school building.



Only the children will be allowed through the main gates – as we need to restrict the number of people who come on to the school site.

Should your child get upset, the staff will be there to provide emotional support and help them. We appreciate that this may be a ‘big step’ for some of the children!

The lunchbox trolley will be situated by the gate, with some hand sanitiser for you to use and a set of antibacterial wipes to wipe this down before you place it on the trolley - if you are wanting to send your child into school with a packed lunch. All children who come to school are entitled to a free, hot school meal for the next two weeks, at least. *We will confirm whether we can extend this offer beyond 6th July nearer the time.*

The menu for this week is:

- Tuesday 23rd June:
Fish Cake OR Cheese & Rice Flan (both served with herb potatoes and vegetables)
- Wednesday 24th June:
Mince Pie OR Vegetarian Meatballs (both served with roast potatoes and vegetables)
- Thursday 25th June:
Packed Lunch – with a choice of ham, cheese or turkey sandwiches
- Friday 26th June:
Fish OR Pizza (served with chips, beans and/or peas)

Everyday there will be a selection of desserts and the option of additional food from the salad bar – as well as a choice of milk or water to drink.

Additional supervision at lunchtime will be provided by Mrs Geaney or Mrs Montandon.

Your child is invited to walk to school alone. **However, if you decide to walk with your child to school – as it is unlikely that there will be a school crossing patrol in operation - only ONE adult should do so.** Furthermore, please ensure that you do not allow your child to bring any items from home – other than their coat. *There is currently no access to the bike store – so any bikes or scooters will need to be taken home, rather than left at school; and we have water stations set up with sanitised cups for the children to use rather than water bottles.*

If you have planned for your child to walk home alone at the end of the school day – at 2:30pm – and have yet to confirm this in writing in a Seesaw message to either Miss Whiting or Mrs Wright, then we kindly request that you do this today – so we can release your child at the end of the school day.

If your child has a sibling who is also going to be in school, you are invited to drop them off and collect both children from school at the same time – if you would find this beneficial. Therefore, if your child has a sibling in:

- Reception – you are invited to drop your child off at school at 9:00am with their younger sibling (through the school hall gate entrance – and they will be escorted into the Year 6 ‘bubble’ by Mrs Ellis or Mr Hilldrup) OR at 8:40am (as outlined above).
- (from Thursday onwards) Year 1 – you are invited to drop your child off at school at 9:20am with their younger sibling (through the school hall gate entrance – and they will be escorted into the Year 6 ‘bubble’ by Mrs Ellis or Mr Hilldrup) OR at 8:40am (as outlined above).
- Priority Group – you are invited to drop your children off at school at 8:30am (through the main school entrance – and they will be escorted into the Year 6 ‘bubble’ by Mrs Ellis or Mr Hilldrup) OR at 8:40am (as outlined above)

In addition to working in their classroom, the children will also have time outdoors – on the playground, in the football court and possibly on the school field. At these times the children will be kept away from the other children who will be in school – and they will have their own box of playground equipment for them

to use. Communal areas, such as the adventure playground and wooden seating area have been placed out of bounds – as have the areas that now have scaffolding in them.



Any areas on the playground that you are no longer able to play on have all been painted yellow, so this is easy for you to remember.
There are still lots of places where you can play outside!!!

We will make contact with any families who have requested to be given the option for their child to return at a later date this term before 6th July. Should any other families wish for their child to return to school this term, please email head.haltonlodge@halton.gov.uk so we can consider your request. We currently have 3 spaces available.



We have lots of floor markings to help you stay 2 metres apart when you are walking around school – and arrows to help you to remember which way to walk.

Our school will be having a new roof over the next 13 weeks. Although the workers will not be here this week, you will be amazed by how much scaffolding we have around the school. This is all in the yellow zone, so while you can walk under it to get out on to the playground, you will not be near it when you are having fun outside.



As we will have reopened our school to the children in Year 6 tomorrow, it is important that we are once again informed of the reason any child in this class is absent from school EVERY DAY.

While no legal action will be taken against any family who chooses to keep their child at home because they do not feel it is safe for them to return to school yet - we also have a legal duty to report if a child is unwell - and whether the illness is: (i) not covid 19 related, (ii) suspected covid 19 related (and a test is to be carried out), and (iii) confirmed covid 19 symptoms. **Therefore, from tomorrow onwards, ALL parents/carers of children in Year 6 who have chosen to keep their child at home MUST report their child's absence each day.**

The simplest way to do this is via the studybugs (report a child's absence) app OR by leaving a voicemail on the school telephone answer phone before 8.30am. You can also email head.haltonlodge@halton.gov.uk. (This can even be done the night before).

If we do not receive a reason for your child's absence, we have a legal obligation to make contact with you to request this information - which is very time consuming and prevents other people contacting the school while the phone is in use. Equally, if no valid reason is given for your child's absence, this has to be recorded as unauthorised - which is unnecessary under the current regulations (provided we are informed of the reason each day).

Any unauthorised absences, as normal, have to be reported to the Education Welfare Service. We appreciate that this may seem strange and possibly unnecessary. However, this is the legal position for the next 4 weeks.

Finally, as many of the children in Year 6 have recently taken receipt of their Year 6 Leavers' Hoodie, we are allowing children to wear these to school – in addition to their school uniform – provided these are clean and washed regularly.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch!