



HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning and Achieving Together

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Wednesday 15th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and looking forward to a break over this festive period.

Please find below information about the last few days of term; to continue to keep our community safe and to maintain our children's education.

Year 2 Singing in the Playground

With regret, I have cancelled the Year 2 singing for parents in the playground on Thursday so that we do not have any large gatherings. The Year 2 team are working hard on a film of the play and will send this out to you as soon as it has been edited.

Positive COVID-19 Tests

Please check the recent Government guidelines on what to do if a member of your child's household tests positive. These guidelines have recently changed. If in doubt, please do not send your child/ren into school. Please ring us or preferably email us for advice if you are not able to obtain advice from Government websites.

Arrival and Dismissal on the last day of term

We are closing early on the last day of term, Friday 17th December. The official closing time is 2.40 pm as published on the school dates. However, due to COVID-19 we have an extended dismissal period. Please see the time slots below. If possible we would like you to collect your child/ren during these time slots. If this is not possible please collect your child by 2.40 pm. The times have been set to take account of parents/carers collecting more than one child.

Reminder: The 4.30 Club is not open on Friday 17th December 2021. Breakfast Club continues as normal.

Year Group	Dismissal Time Slot
Key Stage 2	
Year 6	2.30 pm to 2.40 pm
Year 5	2.30 pm to 2.40 pm
Year 4	2.15 pm to 2.30 pm
Year 3	2.15 pm to 2.30 pm
Key Stage 1 / Reception	
Year 2	2.15 pm to 2.30 pm
Year 1	2.15 pm to 2.30 pm
Reception	2.15 pm to 2.30 pm
Nursery	2.15 pm to 2.40 pm

I suspect there will be further updates with regard to COVID-19 over the festive break. Staff will keep up to date with them and I will inform parents/carers *if* there are any changes to school routines before the beginning of the new term. The Spring term is due to begin on Tuesday 4th January 2021.

There has been no indication that we will go into a lockdown again and no indication that we will start remote learning. However, to be as prepared as we can, class teachers have checked that your child knows their usernames and passwords and can access their Google classroom. Please speak with your child and check they have all that they need to access remote learning. In the event of another lockdown we are able to provide some chrome books but we do not have enough to provide to all students. Previously we appreciated support from parents/carers who had technology at home. Google classrooms will be archived during the Christmas break but will reopen in January.

Clarification about arrangements at dismissal times throughout the school year

At dismissal times, parents/carers please come into the school to collect your child rather than calling to them from outside the school gate. If you wish your child to leave the premises unaccompanied and you judge that they will be safe then please write a letter of authorisation to the school. We have seen an increasing number of parents/carers beckoning their child from outside the school gate. Teachers/staff are not able to send children out to their parents who are standing outside as they have the rest of the class to

supervise. They are not able to walk a child to the school gate or watch them cross the playground and check they are safe with their parent/carer.

Parking

When parking please consider the needs of our children and neighbours. Cars parked illegally are a hazard to our children who are entering and exiting the school site. Please remind your child about road safety and how to cross a road sensibly particularly those students who have permission to walk home alone.

Thank-you!

Thank-you to all the staff of the school for their hard work during what has been another eventful term. Their dedication to the children has been above and beyond and despite the events of this term the atmosphere in classes has been calm and hardworking with happy and engaged children. We have been particularly delighted with the children's reading and how many of them have developed a reading habit. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home.

At the end of term we say goodbye and thank-you to Mrs Skordi who has taught maths and English in Year 5. We wish her much success and happiness in the future and thank her for her hard work and commitment to the children she has taught who have made excellent progress under her guidance and support.

Thank-you to our parents/carers. We have had wonderful support from our school's community over the last term. We know that it continues to be hard for all members of our community and I wish you peace over the festive break. To our families celebrating, Happy Christmas.

Take care,



Ann Bowen-Breslin
Principal

Reminder of previous COVID-19 mitigations that have been put in place

1. We ask all parents/carers to wear masks at arrival and dismissal times. If you are genuinely exempt then we would ask you to wear a sunflower lanyard.
2. Please continue to socially distance.
3. Please continue to follow the one way system. There are a very small number of parents who are exempt and have spoken with us. Please wear a sunflower lanyard.
4. We had begun to relax the number of parents/carers coming to the school reception with enquiries. Unfortunately we need to return to only the very essential queries being made in person. If parents/carers wish to contact the school then please make contact via the school email or an email you have been given if you are in discussion with a particular member of staff. The school telephone is also available to parents/carers however we receive a high volume of calls and often an email is quicker.

5. Please make sure that your child is wearing extra layers over their school uniform so that we can keep the classrooms well ventilated and the children warm. The extra layers do not need to be school uniform. We now have Government funded monitors in the classrooms monitoring the air quality.
6. Given the update with regard to COVID-19 it would seem sensible not to have the exchange of a large number of gifts and cards. However, I do know that for many of our families this is an important way of expressing their thanks and best wishes during the festive period. Therefore we encourage any parent/carer or student who wishes to bring in **one** card (rather than individual cards) for their class to do so. The card will then be displayed in class. There is no expectation on parents/carers to send in a gift to staff however if parents/carers would like to send in an inexpensive gift could you please send it in at the beginning of the last week of term (week beginning 13th December 2021). It can then be left for a few days before opening.
7. I know that social distancing, mask wearing, well ventilated classrooms and regular hand washing makes a difference to the spread of COVID-19. Please continue to encourage your children to wash their hands regularly and to cough/sneeze into a tissue (they need one daily) and then dispose of it in the bins provided. Please continue to make sure that your child is tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms or you take medical advice.