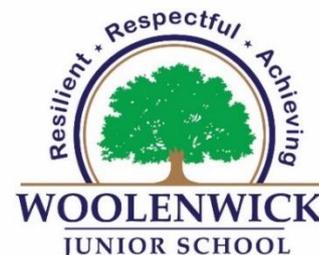


Bridge Road West  
Stevenage  
Herts  
SG1 2NU  
Tel: 01438 216565  
Email: [admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk)  
Acting Headteacher: Ms T.Koser, BA (Hons) QTS PGCE



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### **Important Information regarding Return to School – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very pleased to be announcing the return of the children and eagerly look forward to receiving them on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We have missed having the 'normal' school learning and are all excitedly planning for the classrooms to once again be full of children and working face-to-face with each other rather than remotely. Whilst, the school has been open throughout the lockdown, with staff and pupils working on implementing lessons using remote learning mediums, there is nothing quite like having those personal touches, conversations and banter that breathe life into a school.

As with any change, anxiety often follows and I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that we will continue to do all that we can to keep you and the children safe upon their return. The risk assessments are constantly being reviewed, we will encourage children to work on COVID awareness and re-establish the rules to avoid mixing of Bubbles and keeping everyone safe. I would ask that you encourage children to come in using the correct gates, restrict one adult per family when bringing the children into school and all adults onsite wear masks. I would ask that you and the children maintain a distance from other Bubbles and parents where possible and avoid congregating around the school or on paths. We will continue to remind all to wash hands throughout the day.

If children wish to wear masks in communal areas- or on the playground- we would not discourage these, but the children will not be wearing masks when working in the classrooms or on lessons within their Bubbles. The Bubbles allow all to work together on activities, move around and engage with different individuals within the space/classroom allocated to them. Children are encouraged to bring in their own stationery to use and keep this in their individual packs in school. School stationery will be provided to children but we are aware that several children like to bring their own. Hand sanitisers will be available at various points, including in each class throughout the day. Again, children are welcome to use their own if they would like to do so.

With regards to lessons and learning, we are working on ensuring that the gaps in learning are carefully mapped into future lessons, opportunities for practical learning are woven through the curriculum and forthcoming events include cross curricular learning and links. We successfully managed to demonstrate our effectiveness in the very recent Ofsted visit, two weeks ago and will be sharing the reporting letter with you as soon as it is available to us. Please be heartened by the fact that we are demonstrating impact, parent view taken by Ofsted from yourselves reflects the confidence that you have with us as a school. We are certainly taking this as validation of the effort that has gone into moving this school forward and would like to thank you for supporting us in doing so.

Re-integration of children after 11 weeks of being off school is important. We will be working on pastoral learning, behavioural expectations, as well as mapping out the academic progress we would like to achieve. In doing so it is important to be mindful of routines and systems and I am taking this opportunity for us to refresh ourselves with the following information, which has not changed from term 1, but there might be some things that are worth being reminded of. I have outlined the expectations for uniform, but please do not panic if your child has grown out of theirs and you are struggling to get hold of the correct items. In this case, I would advise you to dress the children in the closest possible match available to yourselves and let the class teacher know. We are still in a lockdown and appreciate that purchasing school items is still tricky.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you all in a week.

Ms Koser, Acting Headteacher



### Timings of the school day

As of pre-lockdown - using the three gates and staggered time for Year 3 only (8:40am start and 3:20pm finish). All other pupils school day starts at 8:50am (on site by 8.45am) and the day finishes at 3:30pm.

### Punctuality and routine

We would ask that you start to prepare your child next week for the return to school; to consider early bedtimes if necessary and help your child/ren get their school uniform, bag, packed lunch etc ready the night before. Running a few minutes early for school is far better than running late.

### Polite reminders

As it has been such a long time since many children were in school, we hope you will not mind receiving these polite reminders about preparing for your son(s) / daughter(s) return

You may wish to know that it will be **Science Week** week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### **Parents Evening next week – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

Feel free to raise any concerns or highlight any changes that the school may not be aware of that transpired over the lockdown period. Please could we be informed of any bereavements which may affect your child, as it is important for the school to have an awareness and be sensitive to such events.

If you have not yet booked a virtual appointment please go to School Cloud – click here: <https://woolenwick.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

**Full school uniform** – we expect all pupils to be in full school uniform, including navy jumper/cardigan, black school shoes and indoor black plimsolls. Uniform expectations are [attached](#).

If the weather should become particularly wet or wintery again the children can wear wellingtons or similar to school and change once they are here.

**PE kit** - should be school PE kit only including dark coloured trainers. Navy sweatshirt or hoodie (no logos) / tracksuit bottoms can be worn in colder weather.

**PE days** – a letter is [attached](#) showing which class/year are doing PE on which days. Children should come into school in PE kit on those days.

**Labelling** -all uniform, coats, lunch boxes and water bottles etc to be labelled with pupil name or initials.

**Reusable water bottle** – it is vital that pupils stay hydrated through the day.

**Healthy snack for morning break time** – we will be once again offering pupils fresh fruit each break time. However, if you wish to send them with an alternatively healthy snack then you may.

**Library and Reading books** – your son/daughter should return all loaned books to their Class Teacher on 8th March. There will be a book amnesty until Wed 10<sup>th</sup> March, after which any lost books will be charged for.

**School lunch menu** – the menu for the remainder of this term is [attached](#). Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> March is 'week 3' (blue menu). Parents/carers must credit their child's dinner money account in advance up to Easter. It is best to set-out a weekly pattern with your child/ren if they do not have a school meal every day and stick with that.

**Dinner money cost** - From Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April, the cost of a school dinner is increasing to £2.65 per day (£13.25 per week). There has not been an increase since September 2019, this increase is in line with costs charged by Herts Catering.

**School Gateway App** - we are very keen for all our parents to be using the School Gateway App. This will allow you to view your child's school dinner balance, make payments and keep your account in credit. This also helps us the school as we do not incur any charges for communicating via text with this app.

Please note:

**BLAST Club** will be returning to normal hours.

**Bike shed** remains closed during March

