



Weekly Bulletin

Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school for the Spring term. I hope you have all had a lovely break over the Christmas period, the children were definitely full of excitement on their return this week.

It is with mixed emotion that I must tell you all that Mrs Christine Dredge who has worked in our office for over 9 years will be leaving us on Friday 14th January. I am sure you will, along with the whole school community want to say your fond farewells as she leaves us to start new adventures in her early retirement. Christine leaves us all with many fond memories of her time at The Willows not least when she won a happiness award at the MK Education awards.



Thank you for your commitment, dedication and loyalty that you have shown all the staff, children, families and visitors to our school. We will miss you.

I would like to welcome Mrs Stacy Britton, our new Badgers teacher and Miss Ruth Kent to the office team along with the children who are new to school this term.



As ever the staff have been busy planning exciting learning opportunities for the term ahead, with some new clubs starting soon too. Please check your emails, texts and children's book bags to keep up to date with information from school.

I understand that the COVID regulations keep changing and we have included the latest guidance further on in the letter. Please read the guidance and if you need any further support we are always here to help. At school we have added in some extra restrictions to try and stop the spread of COVID if any more cases were to arise.

The staff and I look forward to another great term at school.

Take care

Mrs Jo Orbell

Bag2School Collection

Thank you to everyone who very generously donated to the Bags 2 School. We managed to raise £50 for the School.



School Admissions for September 2022

If your child is starting School for the first time in September 2022 or moving up to year 3 and you have not submitted your application this your final reminder. If your application is submitted late ie after 15th January 2022, then this could mean that your child may not be offered a place in your preferred school. Please do not delay.

After School Clubs

Letters about the upcoming after school clubs were sent out just before the end of term. If you have returned the slip we will let you know next week if your child has a space. Once your child's place is confirmed please come to the office to pay (£15 per club) to secure your child's place.

School Lunches

As you know, all children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 classes are currently entitled to have free school dinners. Our school dinners are freshly prepared and cooked on the school premises by our own chef, Mrs Finch. We realise that some children prefer to bring in a packed lunch and have told the school office that this is the case. However, there are a number of children who have ordered a school dinner and are bringing in a packed lunch as well. If you have already ordered a School Dinner for your child, please do not bring a packed lunch as well. This creates a lot of unnecessary food waste and costs the School money.



If you cannot remember what you have ordered for your child's lunch each week, please come and speak to us in the office and we can provide you with a copy of your order form. The school dinner menu is also on our website (under the Parents' tab at the top of the page).

School Opening Time

We realise it is only the first week back, however there has been a higher number of children arriving late to School than usual. It is important for your child to arrive to School on time every day as it can be disruptive to the class when children arrive late into the class room each morning.

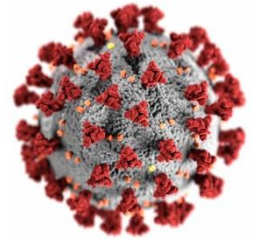


We open our **School Gates at 8:40am** and **class doors open at 8:45am** and **close promptly at 8:55am**.

If you arrive after 8:55am you will need to bring your child to the School Office and they will be marked as late.

COVID Safety

From Tuesday 11th January 2022 if you have tested positive on a lateral flow but showing no symptoms you do not need a PCR Test as well. You will however need to follow the current isolation rules.



The following information has been given to us from the DfE about the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Diary Dates

Starting Tuesday 18th January	3-4pm	Reception Gymnastics 5 week After School Club (Places to be pre-booked)
Starting Thursday 20th January	3-4pm	KS1 Board games and Lego 5 Week After School Club (Places to be pre-booked)
Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February—Half Term		
Monday 28 th February	8:50am	Children return to School
Starting Tuesday 8th March	3-4pm	KS1 Football 5 week After School Club (Places to be pre-booked)
Starting Thursday 10th March	3-4pm	Reception Board games and Lego 5 week After School Club (Places to be pre-booked)

Attendance.

W/C 13 th December		
Year	Class Name	% Attendance
Rec.	Badgers	85.2%
Rec.	Hedgehogs	84.5%
KS1	Squirrels	94.5%
KS1	Rabbits	59.2%
KS1	Owls	84.8%
Total attendance		83.5%



Well done **Squirrels** with an attendance of **94.5%** for the week beginning **13th December**.

The whole school attendance for the week of 13th December was **83.5%**. **We realise this was an unusual week. But we hope this improves in the coming weeks.**

Good attendance at school is important for your child's development & progress. Please ensure you child attends school every day and not take holidays in term time.

We want every child to be a H.E.R.O everyday. **H**ere. **E**very day. **R**eady to learn. **O**n time.

