

Wendover CE Junior School



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We aim to be the school of choice at the heart of our community.

Through living our Christian values, all children and adults at WCEJS have the opportunity to flourish as individuals.

We nurture the curiosity to learn, the courage to lead and the compassion to care.

WCEJS Newsletter 1 April 2021

This has been yet another difficult term with many changes for everyone to cope with. Our children have done a fantastic job of settling back into full time school, but are ready for a break. Thank you for all your support and kind messages throughout this term – these are shared with staff and governors and make a big difference. I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable break over Easter.

At the end of the newsletter is a letter to the children from the Secretary for Education, Gavin Williams.

Collective Worship

This was the last week focusing on responsibility. We have thought about keeping safe – both in the real world and online. Collective worship presentations are available on the school website. An additional guide to online safety for parents is attached to this newsletter; please take time to read this and discuss it with your child as appropriate.

Collection and Drop-off

If you are authorised to drive onto campus, please ensure that you use the one way system and drop children directly outside school. When collecting, wait along the grass verge to the left of the school. Children will then use the pathway as safe access to your car. Please remember that all adults who accompany their child to the school should wear a mask and use the one way system.

Attendance

After Easter, we expect all children to be in school by 8.55am. After this time, children must enter school via reception. Year 3 and Year 5 should arrive no earlier than 8.40am, with Year 4 and Year 6 arriving at 8.50am.

Our usual attendance procedures will apply and attendance from Monday 8 March will be used when calculating the percentage attendance for your child. Children arriving after 8.55am will be recorded as late. If your child is unable to attend school, please email admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk, before 9.30am, stating the reason for absence.

School Uniform

Please ensure that your child is ready to return in full school uniform after the Easter break, including black school shoes. Children should no longer be wearing boots to school.

Extra-Curricular Provision

We are currently planning the reintroduction of extra-curricular clubs. Details will be sent out shortly after Easter.

Easter Activities

As restrictions reduce and the weather, hopefully, improves, many will be out and about during Easter.

Click on the link for further activities that your child may be interested in:

<https://www.paralympicheritage.org.uk/family-fun-activities>

COVID Update

Anyone with a child at a primary school can get tested regularly by attending one of the four rapid test sites in Buckinghamshire, or you can go and collect test kits to do yourself at home. If it's hard for you to go to a site, you can have test kits posted out to you – all the details are on the government's website at www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff

Thank you so much for playing your part in the fight against COVID-19. For more local information about COVID-19 and to find the locations of the Buckinghamshire rapid test sites, you can go to the Buckinghamshire Council website at www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

Continue to monitor your child's health carefully. **Do not send them into school if they, or anyone else in the household, is symptomatic or awaiting a test result.**

SEND Update

If you would like to participate in a SEND virtual coffee morning during the summer term, please email admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk with any topics you would like support with.

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding / welfare concern or need additional support then please contact Mrs Bartlett: admin@wendoverjunior.co.uk Further information is available on our website.

A letter to young people from Gavin Williamson MP, Secretary of State for Education

I wanted to let you all know how grateful I am for the way you have responded to the huge challenges you have all faced throughout the coronavirus pandemic.

Whether this is your first year at school or your final year of college, I know the disruption you have all faced to your education since the pandemic began has been incredibly challenging and has meant completely changing the way you learn – either learning remotely at home or continuing at school or college with fewer of your friends around you and lots of safety measures in place.

Whether you were at home or at school, the disruption last term and throughout last year asked a lot of you and your families. I am filled with admiration for the incredible way you all responded and the resilience you have shown. Not being in school or college with your teachers and friends was a huge sacrifice. Everything you did, with the help of your families and your schools and colleges, and everything you missed out on – time in school, taking exams, seeing friends, playing sport and much more – made such a huge difference to helping us stop the spread of the virus. I want to say a huge thank you to all of you.

Getting all young people back into school and college safely has been my priority throughout the pandemic. I know how vital it is not just for your education but also to spend time with your friends and to feel happy and secure. All our lives have changed a lot in the past year but the challenges that young people have faced have been some of the hardest. I will continue doing everything in my power to make sure that all of you are supported to boost any areas of work you've had less time at school to study, get the qualifications you deserve and have the opportunities you need to succeed.

Continuing to follow all the safety measures your schools and colleges have worked hard to put in place, as well as taking a test twice a week, is so important and helps us to stop the virus spreading. The testing that thousands of you have been taking part in at school and college is a vital part of this. I am so grateful to you and all the staff who have supported you to do this. I know your schools and colleges have worked incredibly hard to prepare you to test yourself at home.

I was delighted to see the enthusiasm with which so many of you returned to school at the beginning of March and I am sure you have had a wonderful few weeks catching up with your friends and teachers. It was fantastic to meet pupils delighted to return to school on my visits to schools like Arden Academy and Bedford Free School and to see so many more of your reunions on social media. I hope that the new term will be just as enjoyable and successful for all of you.

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP, Secretary of State for Education

A message for parents/carers about the COVID-19 vaccine from Buckinghamshire Council's Public Health team

There are lots of questions about the COVID-19 vaccine so we are sharing information about where you can find out more, especially about how safe and effective the current vaccines are.

At the moment the following people can get a COVID-19 vaccine and you should contact your GP to get an appointment if you are in one of the following groups:

- Anyone who is aged 50 and over
- People who work in health and social care
- People who live or work in a care home
- Anyone who is the main carer for someone at high risk from COVID-19
- People with a learning disability
- People with medical conditions meaning they're more at risk from COVID-19

All schools are in close contact with Buckinghamshire Councils' Public Health team. The team wants people to be aware of the following facts about the COVID-19 vaccine:

- The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective, and offers the best possible protection against COVID-19, which carries significant health risks
- Both vaccines currently in use in the UK have been through rigorous safety checks – the same as all other vaccines and medicines approved for use in the UK
- Adverse reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine are extremely rare. Tens of millions of UK citizens have now had a vaccine dose and there is no evidence to suggest any link to blood clots or any other serious health condition
- The World Health Organisation advocates the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine, as does the European Medicines Agency (EMA), which has said there was 'no indication' the jab causes blood clots
- Sometimes you might see false claims about vaccine safety on social media. Please make sure that any information you read about vaccines is from a reliable source such as the NHS website
- If you need any further reassurance then please read [the latest response from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#) (MHRA) which approves all medicines for use in the UK, including the COVID-19 vaccine. You can also read more about the [COVID-19 vaccine on the NHS website](#).

Please do take up the offer of your vaccine when it's your turn, as the risks presented by COVID-19 are far greater than that of any vaccine.