



## Wallace Fields Junior School

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17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### COVID-19 School Actions

Our intention is to protect the best interests of the children, the staff and all the parents and carers (and their families) whilst maintaining a calm and positive atmosphere at school.

#### Parents' Evening.

The teachers are busy writing up the mini-report slips in place of the cancelled Parents' Evening. These also need the group teacher comments and will be distributed as soon as they are ready.

#### Residential Trips.

France – this is now formally cancelled and we are continuing our actions regarding possible reimbursement.

Isle of Wight –PGL are currently remaining open until such time that the government formally bans school trips (or equivalent prohibition). Due to the issue of reimbursement the school will not formally cancel this trip until such time as formal restrictions are put in place as this would lead to the loss of a significant amount of money. If the school cancels, we negate a refund of most of the cost. If school closure is imposed when the trip is due to take place, then alternatives are needed and these are currently being investigated.

#### Assemblies

School assemblies are upper or lower school only. All class assemblies (i.e. 3M assembly) including the Hooke Court assembly are postponed until future notice.

#### Sports Fixtures and Events:

These are being cancelled on a day to day basis and the netball and rugby tournaments have been cancelled. Football events are also being cancelled. Mrs Wilson is putting out updates on these events as they arise.

The Music festival remains in place until such time as a ban is imposed by the government. The same issue applies regarding refunds as the school trips mentioned above.

#### Contacting the School:

Please report your family as self-isolating if a member of the family is symptomatic of Covid-19. Report any other absence in the usual way if it is a non-covid19 illness. Please do not phone the office unless absolutely necessary.



PSHE/Hygiene Promotion: Ongoing education and routines with the children regarding the washing of hands, good hygiene and a sensible calm approach to knowledge of the virus and how best to reduce infection. Clubs will go ahead as usual unless the club leader states otherwise due to personal ill health etc. All other school routines will remain the same.

### Symptoms Covid-19

The symptoms of having Covid-19 are a dry continuous cough or a temperature over 37.8 degrees. If your child has these symptoms do not send them to school. Advice is that the whole family should self-isolate for 14 days and seek medical advice if symptoms persists.

### PTA Events

The circus has been moved to an alternative date for October. This will be reported in the weekly bulletin.

Wraparound Care (Club Vale): Our breakfast and after school care ClubVale is a private company that relies on their staffing independently of the school. If Club Vale are unable to provide wraparound care due to staff illness they will notify the specific parents directly. No other child care exists in the school and children will be expected to be at school at 8.40am and leave at 3.30pm (unless they have a club to attend). With no wraparound provision, any child attending a club will need to be picked up directly when that club ends.

### School Closure – due to staffing

Staffing has been under some strain due to illness (not Covid-19) though the school has maintained lessons, pupil learning and routines. Should the staffing reduce drastically it will render the school inoperable and closure will be enforced. This has been evident in other local schools already. We will do everything possible to prevent this happening. Keep a close eye on the website and emails from the school.

### School Closure - imposed

The school will be following government advice. Contrary to common belief we only get general advice from the Department for Education (DfE) and Surrey County Council (SCC). We have no advanced information ahead of the television announcements made in the news regarding school closures or government action.

In the event of school closure, teachers will be sending out guidance and learning provision. Due to current workload, these are still in the preparation stage and teachers hope to provide a clear framework of possible activities including online and home activities. If your child is currently absent due to illness or family self-isolation, they have a range of online activities to be doing in the interim (along with the reading expectation). However, if the school is forced to closed – more specific tasks will be sent out for children to complete. Details of this will follow in the event of school closure.

We are very aware that this virus is putting a huge strain on the school, the staff, the parents and carers and that at this time we are calling upon the resilience and cooperation of everyone. The message to the children is to remain positive and to talk about the virus in a way that will reduce anxiety about it whilst keeping them washing their hands. We are all working as hard as possible to ensure the school maintains normal level of teaching and learning. Thank you in advance for your ongoing collaboration and constructive actions, we are very grateful for your enduring and active support. We will be keeping our practices under constant review and keeping you updated.

Yours

Mr. Steve Lee

HEAD TEACHER

