

Hawthorn Community Primary School

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Friday 4th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding as we feel our way into the new school year. The children have been brilliant over the last 2 days and it has been lovely to see so many smiles, share in their excitement and catch up with some of the things that they have been doing since we last saw them.

One of the main difficulties that we encountered yesterday was at drop off and pick up times, which were rather manic for all concerned, with a lot of people crammed into a small area; so this morning we trialled something different to try to help to reduce the congestion, particularly for our key stage 2 children, which seemed to work very well.

Now when our year 5 and 6 children arrive at school using the Broadway gate at 8.40am, they will be sent straight into their classrooms rather than waiting in line on the playground. Any year 3 and 4 siblings of these children will be able to line up on the playground straight away, ready for their start time of 8.55am. This will reduce the waiting time for parents and carers. Can we please ask that once the children have entered the playground that you leave the school so that congestion around the gateway and fence on Broadway is reduced and we can keep the children and adults safe. All other year 3 and 4 children should continue to arrive ready for an 8.55am start and will line up on the playground until their teacher arrives to lead them into the classroom. The arrangements for our year 1 and 2 children have not changed.

We are still looking at what we can do to improve the situation at the end of the school day, and will further update you if these arrangements change. Can we please ask that parents arrive promptly at pick up times, but not too early, as we have a very short window between pick-ups and need to try to safely dismiss one bubble before moving onto the next group of children.

At evening pick up, please enter the school site and line up on the top playground (each class has its own designated line). Because of the lack of space, it is vital that only one adult comes onto the playground from each family. If other adults from the family are present can they please wait on the opposite side of Broadway to ensure that it does not become too congested outside of the school gates.

As the children are brought to the parent who is at the front of the line, we ask that you immediately move away to allow the next parent to move forward. You should then

follow the arrows on the playground to vacate the playground and avoid crossing the lines of waiting parents.

Please remember that Broadway is a very busy road and that it is often used by emergency vehicles and buses, so it is important that parents using cars park safely and are mindful of other road users and pedestrians. Can we also request that parents do not bring dogs with them when collecting children, as these cannot be brought onto the school site.

We hope that these measures will help us to improve the start and end of day experience and make things safer for everyone, but arrangements will be continuously reviewed and you will be informed of any other adjustments that we feel are necessary.

As a school we are required by the government to promote good attendance and deal with any issues of poor attendance, but I would like to reassure parents and carers that we will be adopting a sympathetic approach to any absences that occur because of concerns over Coronavirus symptoms.

In the event that your child, or someone in the family, is displaying Coronavirus symptoms the government guidance states that children should remain away from school until the child or family member has been tested and returns a negative result, at which point they may return to school. If a positive result is obtained however, then the child should continue to self-isolate and not attend school for 14 days. You will not be penalised for keeping your child away from school for this reason. For your information, a flow diagram that helps to explain what actions parents should take in the event that the child or a member of their family displays any symptoms is shown on the next page.

Next week we will resume sending out an end-of-week newsletter to keep you informed about what has been happening in school during the week, and of any up-coming events. In the meantime, please see the message from our PFA below:

A happy hello & welcome back from your PFA!

We hope everyone is settling back into school and the new routine well. If you are interested in joining in with the PFA this year, we have a very informal WhatsApp group set up with flexibility to be as involved as you wish. We are still unsure of how things will be able to happen over this school year but let's keep the conversation going!

We have a number of good quality second hand Hawthorn logo jumpers & cardigans available to buy. Please ensure you are following our Facebook page 'HAWTHORN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL PFA' as we will be organising sales safely through there.

Please feel free to message through the FB page with any questions or requests :)

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Julie Clubley,
Headteacher

COVID SYMPTOMS AT HOME FLOW CHART

