



Head Teacher: Kirsti Ashman
Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, GL510ES
T 01242 525616
E head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk
WWW. hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

Dates for Diary 2021

Monday 18th October: Friends of Hester's Way Primary School fundraiser – non-school uniform day
Friday 22nd October - Last Day of Autumn Term 1 – normal finish time
Sunday 31st October – Autumnal clocks “fall” back
Monday 1st November - First Day of Autumn Term 2 - children return to school
Friday 5th November – Inset Day – no children in school
Tuesday 16th November – Nasal flu immunisation – please return permissions to school
Thursday 18th November – Braiswick Photographers – individual pupil photos
Friday 17th December – Last Day of Autumn Term 2

Monday 11th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Parents Evening

The teaching staff are very much looking forward to meeting with you, either face to face, or on School Cloud (if you choose) for Parents Evening.

We want to ensure that you feel happy and safe, whilst also sharing how the children have settled into their new classes and the progress, they have made this term. Some parents/carers may prefer to continue on-line communications, others prefer face to face. When you sign up for dates/times on the playground (boards to be put out this week) please write if you wish for us to contact you for a School Cloud online appointment. Alternatively, please call or email the school office: admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk . Otherwise, we will assume that you would like a face-to-face meeting.

Please enter via the office main entrance and ensure that you wear a mask in the school building. We will be letting parents/carers in as close to your appointment time as possible, so that we limit numbers in corridors and the hall. If you don't have a mask, we will provide one. We will ventilate rooms also, so please be aware that it may be cooler in school.

Parents Evening:

Reception Class, Y1, Y2, Y5 and Y6 - Tuesday 19th October and Wednesday 20th October

Y3 – Monday 18th October & Wednesday 20th October (siblings of other children in school to have priority)

Y4 – Wednesday 20th October & Thursday 21st October (siblings of other children in school to have priority)

Mr Matthews and Mr Turner will continue football club next week.

The children have been a delight to have in school this term and have been focussing on their learning, well. They have been remembering and using the learning skills of whole **school values: perseverance, confidence, resilience, determination, pride and independence**. Our focus this term has been based on confidence, determination and pride. Please ask your child what they are determined and proud about, as well as encouraging them to be confident by talking to you about their learning.

Teachers send home Knowledge Organisers for each subject; these have 10 questions on the back. To encouraged and build your child's confidence in their learning, please talk to them about these and ask

them the questions to check their understanding. It is our intention that the children can talk about their learning and answer the questions, by the end of the unit and term, but also over time.

Year 2 Geography example:

Year 2 Geography
Where do we live in the world?

What should I already know?

The country I live in is called England. It is in the United Kingdom.
The 4 countries in the UK are England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Objectives:

- Name and locate England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
- Learn capital cities of the UK.
- Identify the main characteristics of the 4 countries and surrounding seas.
- Name the world's oceans.
- Name the continents of the world.

There are 5 oceans:
Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean and Arctic Ocean.

There are 7 continents:
Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica and Australia.

Key Vocabulary

City	A large town. London is a city.
Ocean	A large area of salt water between continents. Oceans are very big and they join smaller seas together.
Continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.
Country	An area of land that is controlled by its own government.
Town	Towns are larger than villages but smaller than cities. Chalfont is a town.

Year 2 Geography
Where do we live in the world?

10 Key Questions!

1. What are the 7 continents of the world?
2. Can you name the 5 oceans?
3. Do we live in a town or city?
4. What are the 4 countries in the United Kingdom?
5. What is the capital city of England?
6. What is the capital city of Wales?
7. What is the capital city of Scotland?
8. What is the capital city of Ireland?
9. Which is the smallest - village, town or city?
10. Can you name a city in England?

Arts Week

We have some budding artists in our school. They are learning the knowledge, processes and skills to build towards their final pieces. The children also learn about an artist. In Year 2, they wrote to Julian Opie, to share their work and he emailed back sharing his latest sculptures in Portugal – see photo below.



Geography Week

As well as, learning age-related geography objectives in the classroom, Mrs Godzisz led orienteering sessions for our "Geographers" during Physical Education last week. They had such fun in finding coordinates and using maps of the school.

Year 3 also made fruit kebabs as part of their Healthy Living curriculum.



Friends of Hester's Way Primary School (FoHWPS)

A fundraiser for the FoHWPS is on Monday 18th October. This is a non-school uniform day. Children can wear Halloween (not too scary please!) or their home clothes, whichever they feel comfortable in. Please donate £1 per child or £2 per family and the children will receive a cup cake or gingerbread man in class.

Cardboard to Coats



Soho Coffee House are very kindly raising money from their recycled cardboard for us to buy the whole school, fleeced lined, stormwear coats. We are planning for these to have the school logo embroidered on them.

As the children now have all the same PE kit, they are united as a team and it means that everyone is equal and the same. Coats will make another huge difference to the children in this respect so they can play and do sports outside in light drizzle and the colder weather, whilst being comfortable, warm and smart.



One of our new Governors is the managing director at Soho Coffee and has set up this initiative "Cardboard to Coats", which is going national. They estimate this lorry load could make £600 and they are on their way to raising approximately £1,200 so far. Thank you so much to all at Soho Coffee!

School Life

This term, we have enjoyed school being more like it was before the Covid restrictions, without "bubbles". The children have been able to play alongside each other and join together for whole school assembly. Thank you to our parents/carers for settling the children into their morning routines, as they enter school independently and for socially distancing, as much as possible on the school playground at collection time. It has been fantastic to have the parents/carers back on site to meet and greet the children, at the end of the school day, from their classrooms exits.

Covid-19 Updates

So far this term, we have had 2 positive cases. Thank you to parent/carers for remaining vigilant and getting the children tested, in order to prevent the spread of Covid in the school community. The walk in Covid testing centre at Coronation Square (behind the shops) has been turning around test results the next day, for those who have had to use it.

Covid-19 and Social Distancing at the Start and End of the Day



Whilst social distancing and wearing face coverings is now optional, we would ask that you respect the wishes of those who continue to observe these guidelines and also consider avoiding close contact, in groups, on site. This will be particularly relevant at the end of the school day.

We will still ask visitors to wear face masks and hand sanitise when coming into the building. Visitors to school will still be limited, as we move through the next phase of Covid measures in school.

If you have any important information to share or need the teaching staff to know anything, then please contact your child's class teacher via the class email address. Alternatively, you can contact the office: 01242 525616 or email admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

As Covid-19 cases remain high, we ask that everyone remains vigilant in identifying Covid-19 symptoms and where possible does bi-weekly Lateral Flow Tests (LFT). Consenting staff will continue to take their tests twice a week, to minimise the potential spread of Covid-19. A positive LFT must be followed up with a PCR test at a testing centre or a home test sent and followed up with an NHS positive or negative response.

Parents/carers can order these to use at home, if they choose to do so: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Testing is a way of minimising the risk of transferring potential Covid-19 to others, as well as picking up anyone who has Covid-19 but are not showing any symptoms.

Please keep any child at home with any Covid-19 symptoms and follow the guidance.

We will isolate any child who is showing symptoms, at school, and ask for them to be collected, immediately for testing and self-isolation. Also, any staff with symptoms will be sent home. *Please see the Covid-19 Risk Assessment, Outbreak Management Plan and Home School Agreement for more details about this. This is acting upon government guidance.*

Under safeguarding procedures, we must have at least 2 contacts to be able to collect your child, if they are showing Covid symptoms or in an emergency.

Covid-19 Symptoms

If any child or family member has the Covid-19 symptoms, please continue to test if they have: a high temperature, hot to the touch on chest or back - no need to measure temperature; a new, continuous cough; a loss, or change in sense of smell or taste.

Getting a Test and Self-Isolating

If your child or any member of the household is showing any symptoms call 119 or visit the 119 website to book to attend a GCC mobile testing site or get a home testing kit. The person with the symptoms or positive LFT result, should self-isolate, until the PCR test outcomes are returned. Others in the household should self-isolate, unless they are fully vaccinated (two vaccinations) or under 18 years and 6 months. We have school/home tests at the moment, for pupils with symptoms. The mobile testing sites are super quick too.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/mobile-testing-unit-locations/>

Reporting Positive Covid Cases

We have been fortunate that parents/carers have let us know, when they have received positive case results, so that we can act in school. Please email head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk if your child has tested positive for Covid. If you do not receive a response please email: admin@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

NHS Test and Trace will now ask the child/parent/carer who the "close contacts" have been at school, within a 48-hour period. You may not know who this has been and we would appreciate it if you could contact school to find out. We will also monitor the situation, as best we can to try and minimise any further spread. We will contact the Department of Education and Public Health to seek advice.

School will be responsible for contact tracing employees and ensuring that measures are followed.

Positive Case Self -Isolation

The positive Covid-19 case will still self-isolate for 10 days; whilst others in the household should self-isolate, unless they are fully vaccinated (two vaccinations) or under 18 years and 6 months.

"Close contacts" will be advised to get a PCR test by NHS Test and Trace.

Those who do not need to self-isolate will remain at school, depending on the “close contact” identification and communication through NHS Test and Trace.

We have a GCC SHE Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan, which may see us move back to “bubbles” depending on cases in school. These are published on the school website.

Travelling Abroad

Please can we ask that anyone travelling in and out of the country, checks the most up to date government guidance around self-isolating, before returning to school.

Kind regards,

Miss Kirsti Ashman and the HWPS Team.

