

# TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2020



## Happy Half-Term!

I can't quite believe that we have come to the end of the first half-term. It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming you all back to school! We have had a very strong start to the new academic year, with lots of exciting learning taking place in every class and much progress being made across the school. I have never seen so many smiling faces! Children are settled and happy and we continue to be impressed with the way that your little ones are adapting and behaving so responsibly. Although things are still a little unusual, we are quickly getting used to the new routines.

As we finish for a well-deserved rest, I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our whole school community. In these ever changing times we have all pulled together to ensure that our school is and remains 'COVID secure' to maximise the safety of everyone. Thank you to parents who have been proactive, by ensuring that you follow the new school procedures. I would particularly like to thank you for your continued support in managing the drop off and pick up times, and for ensuring

that you remain vigilant with regards to your child's health.

Well done to the staff for working so hard too. The whole team have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of the children are happy, secure and are learning, as well as also having to clean and sanitise classrooms and resources too! As I am sure you will appreciate, this is not an easy task!

As usual, this newsletter is packed with lots of very useful and important information, so please do take the time to read it fully.

School will close from today for the half-term holiday and children will return to school on Tuesday 3rd November. Please remember that Monday 2nd November is a staff training day. I wish you all a very relaxing and happy break and look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Stay safe.

Best wishes,

Mr Hodgson - Headteacher





### The Reception Look Out

During the Summer holiday, we worked with an amazing company called 'Cool Canvas' to completely change and improve a large section of our Reception outdoor area. The 'Reception Look Out' was uniquely designed around one of our actual trees! The space features a house, wooden walkways, nets, a pole to slide down and even spaces for den-making and exploring underneath. With so many learning opportunities and challenges for safe risk-taking, the treehouse and surrounding area will really benefit Early Years learning for many years to come.



A massive thank you must go to our amazing Friends of Templemoor team, who tirelessly raised funds throughout the year in order to enable the treehouse project to become a reality. It was a real privilege to invite the team to view what their fundraising efforts had managed to purchase. We are very excited to hear about some of the 'virtual' fundraising events that are currently in the pipeline, and look forward to working with the



Friends of Templemoor over this next academic year to provide even more amazing experiences and resources for the children in school. Please do help to get involved! Here is what some of our Reception children think about their new play area...

"I like the climbing frame because you get to go on different parts of it. You have to hold on very tight". *Jeniah.*

"I love the net because it's wobbly. I fall off and it's fun!" *Danny.*

"I just like to play in it. I slide down the pole!" *Alba.*

"We can shelter from the rain underneath". *Arthur.*

"I really like the wobbly bridge, it's so exciting!" *Louie.*

"I like to walk up to the house". *Eddie.*

### Pencil Cases

Over the half-term break, please can you restock your child's pencil case with pencils, felt pens, rubber, sharpener and a glue-stick. Thank you.

### Reading At Home

We greatly appreciate the time parents and other family members give to listen to children reading at home. Reading at home with your child for ten minutes each day is one of the best ways to support your child's education. Keep up the great work!

### Staff Training

Please note that school will be closed on **Monday 2nd November 2020** for staff training. You must make suitable arrangements for your child on this day. A full list of term dates and holidays are available to view on our school website.

### P.E. Kits

When your child's class has P.E. they should wear their P.E. kit to school for the day instead of their uniform. Children should wear a tracksuit, leggings or joggers, t-shirt, jumper or sweatshirt and trainers. These can be any colour or type but must be comfortable, practical and warm. P.E. is held on the following days for each year group:

<b>Reception</b>	Thursday
<b>Year 1</b>	Thursday
<b>Year 2</b>	Tuesday

### School Attendance

Given that we remain in the midst of a pandemic it has been fabulous to see how many children are in school and on time every day of the week. Attendance for this half-term currently stands at a staggering 98.8%, so well done! If your child is not in school, please let us know the reason by phone and/or email as usual before 9am. Thank you.



### Flu Immunisation Programme

As you are already aware, children in Reception up to and including Year 2 are having their flu immunisation on **Friday 13th November 2020**. This involves a quick sniff and it's over and doesn't hurt at all. You should now have received a link to access an online form in order to accept or decline this year's vaccine. The link can be found **here** and will close on 30th October 2020. I have been informed by Trafford Public Health that following flu immunisation, some children, and indeed adults, can experience a slightly raised temperature for a few days after. This is seen as a normal reaction to the immunisation, but given that we are all on the look out for raised temperatures at the moment, along with other symptoms, like a continuous cough and a loss of smell and taste, etc., if you are in any doubt, please seek medical advice via the known channels.

### Christmas 2020!

At this time of year, the thoughts of the staff begin to drift towards Christmas! Normally, we would be thinking about which plays to perform to our expectant and extremely proud and excited grown-ups. We know that you will understand and appreciate that we cannot put on a production this year as we have done in the past. However, Covid should not and **MUST NOT** be the reason we stop giving our children wonderfully memorable experiences. We have already planned the date for our infamous Christmas Dinner, as well as booked an exciting production of 'The Wizard of Oz' for the last day of the Autumn Term! We intend to do all that we can to make Christmas as special for all the children.



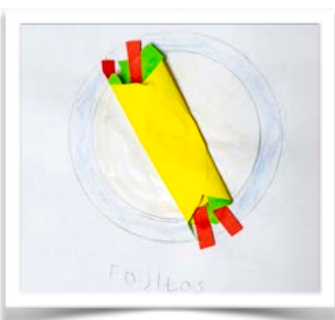




### Odd Socks Day 2020

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we are going to take part in Odd Socks Day. The day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage everyone in school to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! All we ask is for the children to wear odd socks to school, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks Day will take place on Monday 16th November 2020 to help raise awareness of bullying.

### Design a Dish Competition



A huge thank you to all of the children who entered our 'design a dish' competition. We had so many amazing entries, that it was very difficult for our judges from Mellors to pick a winning design. After

much deliberation, the judges decided to choose 'fajitas' by Eloise Harrison in Year 1. The judges felt that this was a lovely idea, different to what the children already have on the menu but containing ingredients that should be familiar to the children so hopefully popular too! 'Eloise's Fajita's' will begin to appear on the menu after half-term, and if the dish proves popular with the children then we will incorporate the dish on the menu for the rest of the term! How exciting!



### We Are Adventurers

Despite the rather rainy weather, our Year 1 and Year 2 children have really enjoyed their outdoor learning sessions with 'We are Adventurers'. The children have extended their learning by focusing on what makes the children so unique and special. The children have taken part in a wide range of outdoor activities such as creating their names out of natural objects and crushing materials to make a 'healthy plate' to represent healthy foods such as fish, vegetables etc! The sessions certainly add another exciting dimension to our children's learning at Templemoor and aim to make learning even more delicious!



## World Children’s Day 2020

On Friday 20th November we will be taking part in UNICEF’s World Children’s Day. Established by the United Nations in 1954, Children’s Day is marked on November 20th each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children’s welfare. The UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child on 20th November, 1959, and then 30 years later it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child on that same day. The convention, which is the most widely ratified international human rights treaty, lays out a number of children’s rights including the "right to life, to health, to education and to play, as well as the right to family life, to be protected from violence, to not be discriminated against, and to have their views heard". All of our children from Nursery through to Year 2 are asked to wear blue on this non-uniform day and will take part in a range of exciting activities in class to mark this important event.

## September 2021 Reception Intake

Trafford’s on-line application system is now open and Trafford residents can apply online [here](#). The closing date for admissions is the 15th January 2021. Further information can be found on our school website under the tab ‘Our School’ and ‘Admissions’.

## Learning themes for next half-term

Our exciting learning themes for the next half-term are:

<b>Nursery</b>	Is it shiny?
<b>Reception</b>	Autumn
<b>Year 1</b>	The History of Me!
<b>Year 2</b>	Remember, Remember the Great Fire of London!



## Halloween Competition

Over half-term the Friends of Templemoor are running a fun Halloween competition to win one of four hampers full of surprises and treats! All proceeds will go towards funding the Christmas Pantomime. A link to the competition can be found [here](#). The deadline to enter is Tuesday 3rd November so best get carving, drawing and baking! Good luck!

## Online Ordering System with Parent Pay

We are delighted to announce that after the half-term holiday, we are launching an online ordering system to allow parents to pre-order meals from our menu. Further details have been sent out in a separate letter. I want to thank the office staff, kitchen staff, midday staff, teaching assistants and caretaker for enabling lunchtimes to run so smoothly and safely. Well done team!

## COVID Helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is now available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education. Parents can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)





### COVID Alert Level Very High

From today, Trafford is in Covid Tier 3, with the alert level '**Very High**'. A link to a poster explaining the very high alert level can be found [here](#).

Every week I attend an online Public Health briefing, and the Director of Trafford Public Health has made it very clear that in order to reduce the increase in the spread of the infection rate across Trafford, the one thing that we must all do is observe the no mixing rule across households. I appreciate that with Halloween and Bonfire night approaching, it will be tempting to meet up with family and friends. As we are now in Tier 3, we must not mix with any other households inside or out. It is very important to follow these rules if we want to slow the rate of infection down in our community.

It is now more important than ever for families to consider their actions outside of school. In doing so, we will ensure that we keep each other safe, and above all keep school open. Thank you for your continued support.

### Parent Consultations - December 2020

We do hope that you have enjoyed catching up with your child's class teacher via telephone to discuss how your child has settled into school this half-term.

When we return from the half-term break, we will be sending details about our virtual system of meeting with you. Our virtual parent consultations

will take place on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th December. You will be able to pre-book an appointment, and the system will enable you to be at home (or indeed at work) and to virtually meet with your child's class teacher to discuss progress.

In the meantime, if you need to speak to your child's teacher please email the school office or speak to the Office Team on 0161 969 1622.

### A message from the Chair of Governors



On behalf of the Governing Board at Templemoor, may I say how delighted we are to welcome the children back to school this half term after the lockdown period. I know that staff have been really impressed

with how the children have coped during this time of great uncertainty and their smiles, energy and enthusiasm have been wonderful to see back in school. The children have adapted so well to the new ways of doing things around school and this, along with the support of all our families, has undoubtedly contributed to the fact that during this half-term, Templemoor has had no positive cases within school. Thank you so much for supporting the school during this challenging time.

I would also like to say a special thank you to our X Club staff who have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the Club has been able to re-open to all year groups including children from Moorlands. This has involved a great deal of planning and organisational change, which staff have embraced wholeheartedly. The X Club is an integral part of life at Templemoor and we are very grateful for the hardworking, dedicated and caring staff who make up the X Club team.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very relaxing, safe and happy half term break. With our very best wishes,

*Mrs Judith Davenport - Chair of Governors*



### Year 2 Phonics Screening Check

In the summer term, all Year 1 pupils are assessed on their ability to apply their phonetic knowledge to read words. This is carried out using the Phonic Screening Check, which consists of a mixture of 40 words; some real words and some made-up words. All the words are phonetically decodable. Due to lockdown, the children in Year 1 last year were unable to take the Check. Year 2 children are therefore now required to sit the Phonics Check during the second half of the Autumn term. At Templemoor, we have decided the Year 2 children will take part in the Check the week beginning the 30th November 2020. The Check is completed in a relaxed manner, and administered one to one with your child's own teacher in a comfortable and familiar place.

In order to prepare children for this, Year 2 children are taking part in daily phonics sessions to recap sounds that should have been taught in Year 1.

We would like to reassure you that we are doing all that we can to help each individual child to catch-up on missed learning whilst striving to create a nurturing and caring environment within school, with wellbeing at the core.

Information about the Phonics Check can be found [here](#). If you require any further advice, then please do not hesitate to contact the Year 2 team.



### Be Safe, Be Seen

We are delighted to be working again with Co-operative Funeralcare to promote their 'Be Safe, Be Seen' campaign, which aims to raise awareness about road safety. After half term your child will receive a high-visibility reflective badge designed to keep them safe now that the darker nights have arrived. Thank you to Co-operative Funeralcare for donating the badges.

### COVID Symptoms

Please remember that if you or your child presents any of the following COVID symptoms you must self-isolate and have a test.

**High temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature);

**New, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual);

**Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Please can we also remind parents that:

If someone in your household has Covid symptoms, and is waiting to be tested or for test results, **all household members must self-isolate until the results are known**. Do not send children

into school, or go into work yourself until the test result is known. If the result is positive, all household members must self-isolate for 14 days.

**If you are a contact, you have to self-isolate for 14 days from the last contact with the case.**

It does not matter whether you have a test and you are negative, you must still self-isolate. If your child has been sent home from school as a contact, they must not leave the house or garden or see friends during this period. This will stop other people getting the infection if you or your child are developing the infection. If they are a contact and this time falls into the holidays they must still isolate.

**Keeping in contact over half-term**

If your child tests positive for COVID over the half-term holiday please let the school know immediately **via email**. Please also include a contact phone number in case we need to ask you further questions, e.g. dates of symptoms starting, test dates etc.

**Keeping safe in school**

In order to ensure the safety of our school community in light of cases increasing locally and nationally we ask that parents:

- Socially distance from other families in the playground.
- Keep a 2m distance from teachers at drop off and collection times.
- Only **ONE** adult per family must drop off and collect. This is so that we reduce the number of people on the school site.
- We are continuing to ventilate our classrooms via open windows and sometimes the external doors. Please do send your child in with extra layers if needed.
- Please walk to school if possible. Car sharing must be avoided.

- Parking: Do not park on Nursery Close, or block residents' drives. We have contacted the PCSO and traffic wardens and asked them to increase their checks. It is incredibly dangerous for pedestrians and the safety of our pupils is our priority.

Thank you for following the procedures. Together we can make sure that our children, families and staff are as safe as possible.

**And Finally...**

Once again we want to thank parents for your continued support during these challenging times. I wanted to end this newsletter with a couple of beautiful photographs of our Nursery children, who are so engrossed in their learning! Thank you to Miss Hayward for taking these stunning shots. Have a wonderful half-term.

Best wishes,

Mr Hodgson and the Templemoor Team





### Dates for the Autumn Term 2020

Friday 23rd October 2020	Non Uniform Day School breaks up at 3:15pm for the half term holiday
Tuesday 3rd November 2020	Back to school! Halloween Competition closing date
Friday 13th November 2020	Nasal Flu Vaccination for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children
Monday 16th November 2020	Odd Socks Day - Wear odd socks!
Friday 20th November 2020	World Children's Day - Wear Blue!
Week beginning 30th November 2020	Year 2 Phonics Screening Check
Monday 7th and 8th December 2020	Parent Consultations
Friday 18th December 2020	Non Uniform Day and Christmas Pantomime School breaks up at 3:15pm for the Christmas holiday

### Autumn Term 2020

<b>Opens</b>	Thursday 3rd September 2020
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 23rd October 2020
<b>Opens</b>	Tuesday 3rd November 2020
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 18th December 2020

### Spring Term 2021

<b>Opens</b>	Monday 4th January 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 12th February 2021
<b>Opens</b>	Monday 22nd February 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Thursday 1st April 2021

### Summer Term 2021

<b>Opens</b>	Monday 19th April 2021
<b>Bank Holiday Monday (School is closed)</b>	Monday 3rd May 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 28th May 2021
<b>Opens</b>	Monday 14th June 2021
<b>Closes</b>	Friday 23rd July 2021

### Staff Training Days (School will be closed to children)

Tuesday 1st September 2020
Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Monday 2nd November 2020
Monday 21st December 2020
Friday 11th June 2021
Monday 26th July 2021