

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – March 5th 2021



Arrangements for the start & end of the school day

We have reviewed the arrangements for the start and end of the school day, and from Monday 8th March when all children return to school, the start of the school day will be **8.55am for ALL classes** (except for Nursery at 8.45am) and home time will be at **3.25pm for ALL year groups**.

We plan to continue with the routine that has been working very well in the mornings with the key worker families, by continuing only to use ONE entrance into and out of school on mornings. This will continue to be the Chiltern Road entrance. **There will be no access to school via the Malvern Road entrance in the mornings. Please note that the pedestrian gate onto site via Chiltern Road will be open from 8.40am every morning.**

There is only one adult permitted with a child on the school site, and we ask that all adults wear face masks. All children and parents must come onto the yard via the gate at the end of the yard which faces the path (see map) and stay within and behind the cones & tape. All children and adults must not cross the tape. This area is exclusively for the class lines.

There will be a hand bell at 8.45am to indicate when Nursery children should line up. Staff will direct the Nursery children into this line before taking them into school. Once again, when the Nursery children move into their line, adults must not cross the tape.

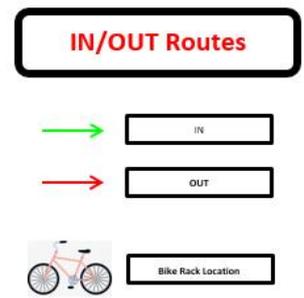
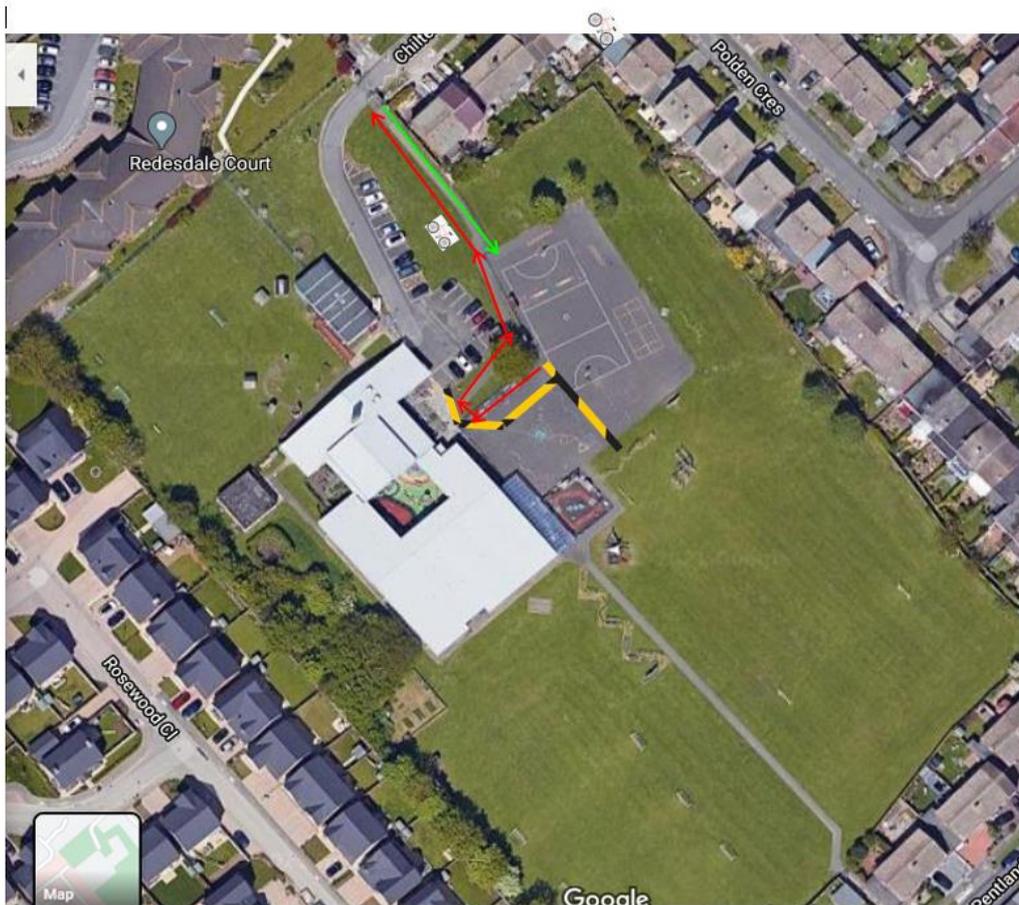
For the rest of school, a first bell will ring at 8.53am and this bell signals that all other year groups into their class lines – this again is without parents/adults. We have been really impressed with the increased independence of our children coming into school on a morning, and this will continue. This bell at 8.53am also signals for all adults to leave the site. (Please see plan) Lastly, it signals that all staff will come out of school and stand where their class should line up.

A second bell will ring at 8.55am, by which time we expect all children to be in their class lines and class teachers will immediately bring the children into school.

If you wish to speak to your child's class teacher, the time for this will be at the end of the school day, when children will be released onto the yard and field as normal. **The Malvern Road gate will be open at the end of the school day.**

I ask that you are extremely considerate to the residents at the main gate side of school, and mindful of not parking on verges or in front of driveways.

After drop off, please move off the school site as quickly as possible. We ask that families still contact the office via email or phone; there will be no access to the school office in the new route off site. Please see the plan below, showing the new morning drop off routine.



Updated for families from the DFE

You can get **twice-weekly rapid lateral flow COVID-19 test** if you are **symptom free**, if you are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of:

- A member of staff who work in a primary school or secondary school or
- A pupil who attends primary or secondary school.

Twice weekly testing is available through the following:

- Through your employer if they offer testing to employees.
- By booking a test at a local rapid test site [Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site](#) (in North Tyneside the rapid test site is at The Riverside Centre, North Shields).
- By collecting a home test kit from a specified collection point [Find your nearest home test kit collection point](#) (in North Tyneside the collection points are test sites at The Parks, North Shields and Coronation St Car Park, Wallsend).
- By ordering a home test kit online [Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#) only on offer for those who can not collect home test kits.

Please note this does not apply to:

Secondary school pupils, and primary and secondary school staff, who should take twice-weekly tests using home test kits provided by their school.

Primary school pupils, as they should NOT be subject to regular asymptomatic testing and only to need to come forward for tests if they have symptoms.

How to collect a home test kit from a collection point in North Tyneside

1. Test kits can be collected from the local test sites located at **The Parks Leisure Centre, Terrace Room, Howdon Road, North Shields or Coronation Street Care Park, Wallsend between the hours of 1pm and 7pm you do not need an appointment.** Other collection test sites are available and can be found here: [COVID Test Finder \(test-and-trace.nhs.uk\)](https://test-and-trace.nhs.uk)
2. You can collect two packs of 7 rapid lateral flow self-test kits per individual and up to a maximum of 4 packs where justifiable for example for very large or extended families.
3. Each individual must register the test and record the results at home, using the NHS website or through the 119 call centre for positive, negative and void results.
4. Any individual who undertakes a test at home and reports a positive lateral flow self-test **MUST** undertake a further test to confirm the result by ordering a PCR test online or by booking to attend for a PCR test at a local test site here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Home test kits **MUST NOT** be used for any individual who has symptoms of COVID-19. Anyone with symptoms should book to attend for a PCR test at a local test site here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

PE Kits

Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school on Monday as usual. Your child's PE kit should include a school PE T-shirt, red shorts and sand shoes or trainers. Wherever possible, PE lessons will take place outside on the yard or field. You may choose to include a pair of jogging bottoms for cooler weather.

Reminder:

PE kits will remain at school and children will bring them home at the end of each half term to be washed.

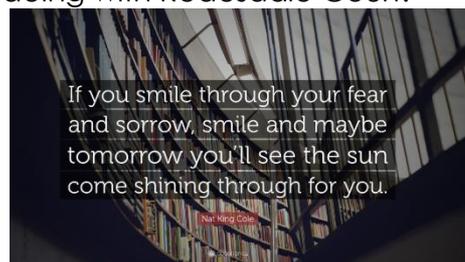
If your child does not have a PE kit or is missing items of clothing, they will be unable to participate in the active elements of the lesson and will be given a supporting role to play. No jewellery is to be worn during PE lessons. If your child has their ears pierced, they must remove their earrings independently before each PE lesson.

Singing for Memories

Please read below, an article which has been written by William, Sophie & Josh D from Year 6 about the lovely Singing for Memories project that we are doing with Redesdale Court.

Singing for Memories

Last week, the children from Preston Grange Primary School were involved in a wonderful virtual project with the lovely residents from Redesdale Court. This heart-warming event was called 'Singing for Memories' and was expertly organised by Neil at the Newcastle Eagle Community Foundation.



Two songs were chosen: It's a Long Way to Tipperary and When You're Smiling. All of the children worked hard to practice the songs both at home and at school. On the day of the event, there was a real buzz around school and lots of excited children. After a couple of technical hitches, Preston Grange, Redesdale and Neil were able to see and hear each other. When everyone began to sing, the hall came alive and it was clear to see how much everyone enjoyed singing together; it was such a beautiful moment.

Between the two songs, there was time for some questions. The children learnt that one of the residents, Alfie, used to be a professional footballer and another was an opera singer. One of the questions was about favourite singers and it was clear to see that Nat King Cole was a popular choice.

What did everyone think about the event?

"I liked how the elderly people were so joyful and were always laughing." Abbie McNeill Y3

"It was so enjoyable when everyone sang together." Jessica Y2

"It has been a lovely opportunity to participate in an inter-generational project, which brought so much joy to everyone." Mrs Taylor (Headteacher)

"It was lovely to join in with this project and it was heart-warming to see how happy the children were when they were practising." Miss Wright (music coordinator)



Enrichment activities

On Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th March when everyone returns to school, we have planned two full days of collaborative activities where children will have fun and come together as a whole class and school again. Across the two days, children will be doing:

- Forest School- campfire cooking
- Forest School - environmental art
- Den building & reading
- Orienteering
- Baking
- Rounders
- Team building activities
- Science - practical investigations & challenges
- Creative - crafts, friendship bracelets

For these two days, we ask that you send your child into school on Monday and Tuesday with:

- A warm coat
- Some spare jogging trousers/trousers (in case of it being muddy)
- Wellies

N.B. children need to keep their wellies in school for both days.

We are all really looking forward to seeing everyone next week! 😊

Tracey Taylor
Headteacher
March 5th 2021