

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you so much to you all for your support in trying to keep our community safe. Thank you for being sensible and measured!

I know there is some confusion about COVID testing. Please look at the **attached flowchart**, which will hopefully help you to work out when your child might need to self-isolate and obtain a test.

In essence, if your child has one or more of the following symptoms:

- A temperature of 37.8°C or higher
- A new, persistent cough (coughing a lot for an hour, or more than 3 prolonged episodes in 24 hours)
- A loss or change of smell or taste (which is not caused by a blocked nose due to a cold)

then you must keep them off school (and any of their siblings), and arrange to get a COVID test for the symptomatic child only <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> Siblings/other household members do not need to be tested unless they also develop symptoms.

You must keep your child off, and any siblings, until you have had your test results through. If the test is negative, then, providing your child feels well, they can come back to school. If the test is positive, then the symptomatic child must isolate for 10 days (from the onset of the symptoms), and the rest of the household must isolate for 14 days.

Please keep the school informed and updated as a matter of urgency, especially if your child has a positive result, as we have to then follow strict protocols, and may have to close bubbles! If we have a confirmed case of COVID in the school, we will inform the parents of close contacts of the child as soon as we can. Just because a child is off with a high temperature, does not mean they have coronavirus. Please do not spread rumours, or speculate, but trust that all procedures are being followed. Thank you.

If your child just has a cold, and none of the above symptoms, and in normal circumstances would be in school, please send them in.

I am very aware that it is difficult to obtain a test. Please keep refreshing the site. I have been informed that new tests are added at 10am, and 8pm, each day. If you cannot visit a test centre, please see if you can get a home test kit. Please let me know if you really cannot obtain a test.

Absence Reporting

We are trialling the use of ParentMail to report absences. Therefore, you now have two options if you need to report your child's absence from school:

- Telephone the school office (not class teacher) on 020 8542 1591 by 8.45am. If you get the answerphone, please leave a clear message
- Log in to ParentMail and navigate to 'Notify Absence'. Complete the form by 8.45am

Whichever method you choose, please give as much information as possible, especially if your child is having to self-isolate or take a Coronavirus test, to avoid us having to telephone you for more details.

A BIG thank you from HOTS and the school team

Over £5000 was donated for the summer fundraiser and with gift aid and matched funding we are hoping to have a final amount over £8000!

A big thank you to all who donated - what a great start to the school year!

Parents/Carers Face Coverings/Masks, Social Distancing and the 'Rule of 6'

In order to protect each other, and members of our community I **strongly urge** parents/carers to wear a face covering/mask at drop off and pick up.

Please ensure that you are observing social distancing at drop off and pick up. Please also ensure that you move away from the school as soon as you have collected your child/children. Please do not stop to have a chat with others, as we need to keep the area around school as clear as possible.

We have a number of families who are congregating near to the school gates on Effra Road at the end of the school day. Please move away from the gates as soon as you have collected your child/children, so that we can keep the exit and pavement clear for others to use. If you need to cross to the other side of the road, consider moving along Effra Road and crossing away from the school.

As soon as our families leave the school premises the 'rule of 6' comes into force – please ensure that you are following this rule.

School Office

Just a quick reminder that we are trying to keep our school office closed as much as possible as part of our Covid-19 response. Therefore, please do not visit to drop off packed lunches or water bottles etc. If your child has left these at home, please just telephone or email the school office and we can arrange for your child to be given a school lunch and/ or water in school.

Hand Sanitiser/Kitchen Towel and Liquid Soap

Thank you so much for your generous donations. We continue to be grateful for any donations of hand sanitiser, kitchen towel or liquid soap. Children, now from Year 2 upwards, are very welcome to bring their own supply of hand sanitiser to keep in their bag, desk or tray.

Naming Clothes

Please can you make sure that all items of clothing are named so that we can return them to their owner if they are found around the school.

Second Hand Uniform

We are delighted that HOTS have now taken over management of our pre-loved uniform and that all of the proceeds from future sales of second hand items will go directly to HOTS funds.

If you have good quality, clean uniform to donate, please ensure that you remove all labels (or scrub out any visible names if written in pen) and then drop it off at the HOTS Second Hand Uniform Collection Point at the Faraday Gate at school drop off time in the mornings. Please do not hand it in to the office.

If you would like to buy second-hand uniform, please look out for information which will be circulated through the class rep network next week. An inventory will be sent around so you can see what is available but if you need anything urgently please email hotsemail@gmail.com and the team will do their best to help.

Could you be 3T's Class Rep?

3T are still looking for a parent/carer to be their representative. If you are interested, please email me and I can forward your name on. Thank you.

Might you be eligible for Free School Meals and extra funding for school?

To make the application process easier school can now check eligibility on your behalf. All you need to do is email your name and National Insurance number to sbm@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk giving your consent, and we can check your eligibility and let you know.

Invitation to Merton Council's School Street Webinar

Tues, 29 September 2020

7:00 – 8:30pm

To register for this online event, please click [here](#).

Wed, 7 October 2020

1:30 – 3:00pm

To register for this online event, please click [here](#).

Speakers:

Councillor Eleanor Stringer, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Merton Council

Katie Halter, Climate Change Officer, Merton Council

Sam Dillon, Healthy Streets Officer, SusTrans

This session will introduce the expansion of Merton's School Streets programme and offer an opportunity to ask questions and share your views with the speakers.

School Streets restrict motor vehicle access around schools which aim to create a safer, healthier and more liveable street environment for everyone.

The school streets programme is in a phase of rapid implementation, with 25 school streets being put in place over September and October.

For more information about school streets go to: <https://www.merton.gov.uk/schoolstreets>

Attached items and Useful Links:

- COVID Flowchart
- Summer Reading Challenge – ends 30th September 2020
- NEAT Football Club

Due to increased demand for our NEAT football sessions, we will be running an extra NEAT INTRO session open to all. This will be football specific session open to children aged 5-12 years and concentrating on fitness, ball work and small sided games.

Venue: Goals Wimbledon, KT3 4PH

Time: 5.30-6.30pm

Cost £60 for a 6 week block

First session: FREE

Start Date: 5th October

ALL PLACES MUST BE BOOKED THROUGH:

neatoffice@yahoo.com

Key Dates for 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Thursday 3rd September - Fri 18th December 2020

NB Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September INSET days so **children start on Monday 7th September**

Half term Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2020

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4th January – Thursday 1st April 2021

NB Monday 4th January 2021 INSET day so **children start on Tuesday 5th January 2021**

Half term Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021

Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April – Friday 23rd July 2021

NB Monday 7th June and Friday 23rd July INSET days

Term ends for children on 22nd July 2021

Half term Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2021

As further dates are added, these will be highlighted.

Date	Time	Event
12-16 th October and 19 th – 23 rd October	Afternoon/ evening	Parent/Teacher meetings will be held over a 2-week period for different year groups. These will all be held virtually. Further information will be sent out about booking slots nearer the time.
15 th October	All day	Individual School Photographs (if these are able to take place)
21 st October	AM	Flu Immunisations (only for those for whom we have consent for)
23 rd October		Break up for half term
16 – 20 th November		Anti-bullying week
18 th December	Staggered ends TBC	Break up
4 th January 2021		INSET Day
5 th January		Children start back

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards