



Madginford Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Amanda Woolcombe

Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to share with you that this week saw the start of our new school council. A school council is a body of pupils set up to represent all pupils and issues that affect them.

Having a school council can be really rewarding for the pupils, as it helps to develop strong communication links between the adults and the children in school.

Our pupils have some excellent ideas about how the school can be further improved and council gives them a fantastic opportunity for their views and ideas to be shared.

The school council aims to be representative of the views of all the pupils. This may be through class circle time, class council time, or a suggestion box, which will all feed ideas into the main school council.

Each class has voted a school councillor and deputy to represent their class. This week the successful candidates attended a meeting, where they were able to meet the representatives from the other classes. During the meeting their role was discussed and some games to develop their communication and listening skills were played. This was also an opportunity for the school councillors to get to know each other. It was lovely to see how well the different classes and year groups worked together and to see how confident the children were to share their ideas with the group.

The school council will meet twice termly with Miss Stamp and Mrs Sargent. Please encourage your children to raise any suggestions that they have with their class councillors, or put in their class suggestion boxes.

Phonics meetings

Thank you to the Year 2 parents who attended the Phonics Workshop this week. It was lovely to be able to welcome you in and share our teaching approach for phonics. On Tuesday 5th October, we have three workshops happening. 9.15am for Year 2 parents, 10.15am for Year 1 parents and 2.00pm for Year 1 parents. If you have not yet returned your slip and would like to participate in one of the workshops, please send a message to your class teacher who can pass this on to Miss Jones or Mrs Sargent. Our EYFS parents have the opportunity to attend workshops the following week on Tuesday 12th October.



EYFS Stay and Play Sessions

Just a reminder to parents of EYFS children. On Friday 8th October we are having a Stay and Play session for parents/carers of EYFS children. Parents/carers of EYFS children will have the opportunity to see the learning environments and meet the teaching team. Please send a message on Class Dojo to your class teacher just to let us know if you can attend. Please come in through the Merton Road (KS1 entrance) and there will be a sign in sheet for you before you are taken to your child's classroom.

Individual school photos

As a reminder, next Wednesday 6th October is school picture day for individual photos in KS1 (sibling photos will also take place on Wednesday). Thursday 7th October is school picture day for individual photos for children in KS2.

New intake tours

Thursday 30th September was our first tour for parents/carers whose children are looking to start school next September. If you would like to book into a tour, or know someone who would be interested, please contact the school office. Tour dates are Thursday 14th October, Thursday 21st October, Thursday 18th November and Thursday 25th November, each starting at 9.30am.

COVID

At this time, we have had three of our children test positive since returning to school on the 1st September. In all cases we have informed the parents of children in the relevant year groups to heighten vigilance around symptoms and will continue to do this at the current time.

We have in place a COVID Contingency Plan and this has been uploaded onto our school website. We continue to receive regular updates from the Department of Education with reference to the management of COVID and will keep you all updated.

Parking

Please can I ask all parents to drive carefully and park considerately and legally. This week a number of local residents have raised their concerns over blocked driveways and speeding cars. As a school we are unable to police parking outside our grounds but we will again be in contact with police around this as the safety of our children is absolutely paramount.

We have some wonderful learning to share with you – please enjoy!

This week, we really want to celebrate the many different ways our children demonstrate our school values every day.

Our school values are curiosity, working together, perseverance, challenge, independence, equality and respect (including kindness).

Celebrating our values in Y6

The Y6 team have been really impressed by children's hard work, perseverance and team work this week. In 6D, Miss De Costobadie is really proud of Zac H. He is always kind, respectful to all & works incredibly hard. She says there is no stopping him! In 6R, Miss Reed is really pleased with Taliah's approach to learning - she works hard, using her initiative to work out just what to do next. Not only that, she is unfailingly kind and respectful to all of those around her. Meanwhile, Mrs Barnes (6B) is impressed with Pheobe's kindness and hard work. She really appreciates all of the help Pheobe gives to both adults and children in the year group. In 6W, Mr Willment was blown away by the determination and perseverance demonstrated by Anas who challenged himself to solve the toughest maths challenge in the lesson. Mr Willment enjoyed seeing him smiling, talking and working with his partner to find a solution. Well done Anas! Not to be forgotten, Mrs Hodges wanted to nominate Miriam who routinely demonstrates all of our values. She works incredibly hard, uses her initiative but will also happily support her friends with their learning.

Celebrating our values in Y5

The teachers in Y5 were just as happy to share just how impressed they were with the children in their classes. Miss Cutmore is particularly proud of Kai who has happily helped a new child in the class - he has made sure he knows where everything is, helped him with his learning and made sure he is included in things at playtime. Mr Parnham (5P) wanted to share Alex's hard work and learning - he is particularly proud of the respect Alex shows to adults around the school and his peers. Miss Weeks (5W) found it very hard to decide just who she felt should be included in the letter. In the end, she felt that Jack G and Oliver's kindness to everyone around them was lovely to see - not only that, they are both incredibly respectful! We've already mentioned the school council elections and Miss Chaplin (5CH) explained just how impressed she was with the council member elected by the class. Nitesh put together a presentation that promised equality and respect for all, promising to represent everyone in the class, valuing all children equally. This was very much appreciated by the class.

Celebrating our values in Y4

The Year 4 teachers wanted to celebrate the brilliant achievements of all those children who decided to stand for the school council whether they got elected or not. The teachers were impressed by the amount of preparation put into each speech and presentation. It isn't easy to stand up and speak in front of a group even if they are your friends but everyone showed real determination and perseverance to confidently deliver their ideas.

Year 4 also had a 'taster' day to get them started on their new unit of writing. Children had the opportunity to taste lots of different vegetables (thank you very much for all of the contributions) and enjoyed challenging themselves to try new foods. Miss Perkins says she was really impressed with the quality of their vocabulary as well. Well done Y4!

Celebrating our values in Y3

Again, it was a tricky job for the teachers in Y3 to narrow down their choices to just a few children. Mrs Brown wanted to mention Louie (3FB) who is a polite, well-mannered boy who works hard without giving up when things get difficult. She is proud of how he thinks of others, showing respect for their thoughts and feelings. Both Miss Ralph and Miss Verkely wanted to nominate Lyla. In their words "Lyla always does the right thing at the right time in the right way." What a lovely thing to hear! In 3D, Miss Davies is really proud of Rowan. He is independent and loves to challenge himself. He routinely demonstrates respect for others in the class, treating them with kindness.

Celebrating our values in Y2

Miss Willis is very proud of Leonardo and Mia in 2W. They are always keen to learn and helpful in every way and to everyone. Mr Day had a difficult time deciding on who to choose but finally settled on Bella and Seth from 2D. Bella is responsible and routinely demonstrates respect and kindness to everyone around her. Seth is a great role model always showing readiness to learn. Miss Lonsdale (2L) was really proud of Beatrice in her class who had written a letter at home asking Mrs Woolcombe if we could raise money to improve the playground. What a lovely thing to do!

Celebrating our values in Y1

This week, Y1 have had a great time on their 'Cycle Ready' course where children have been trying out ways to ride their bikes. Children showed real respect for each other and their visitors. They persevered, challenging themselves when practising all of the different skills covered in the course. Children worked together and really enjoyed themselves. Y1, we're glad you enjoyed yourself!



Celebrating our values in EYFS

Mrs South and Mrs Russell are really proud of Sophia in Ladybirds who is so kind and respectful to all those around her. She is helpful, tidying up and looking after school resources. Mrs Brenchley and Mrs Summerton nominated Sahir in Bumblebees who is always smiling and trying his best. His school grown-ups are very proud! Mr Farquhar wanted Amelie to be in the newsletter - he is really proud of her kindness and how helpful she is. The class grown-ups are really impressed with the way she shares and takes turns as well.

Finally, it just remains for me to say thank you all for your invaluable support.

Take care and keep safe

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Woolcombe'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular flourish at the end.

Mrs A Woolcombe
Headteacher

Contact Tracing for Step 4 Onwards

Frequently Asked Questions

Note: Throughout this document we refer to 'settings' – this relates to educational and childcare settings, including early years settings, schools, children's social care and FE providers.

Why are Test and Trace now assuming contact tracing duties from step 4?

Education and childcare settings have done a brilliant job in identifying contacts over the course of the pandemic, but this resource intensive. NHS Test & Trace already manage the contact tracing process for the rest of society and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

What happens from 19 July if a student tests positive with an LFD test?

If a student has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test after 19 July they and other members of the household should self-isolate. They, or their parent, should notify the setting that they will not be attending setting on the basis of the LFD test result. The student should order an immediate confirmatory PCR test.

If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless they have developed symptoms or been instructed to self-isolate by Test and Trace for other reasons). The student should inform the setting and return to face to face learning.

If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), they and other members of their household must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of the LFD test (or the date their symptoms began, if they were symptomatic). They should inform the setting that they have had a positive PCR test result and will not be attending the setting for the period of their isolation. They should learn remotely during this period if they are well enough to do so.

At what point and how might a setting be asked to support with contact tracing?

Settings will not be routinely contacted by NHS Test and Trace. Individual positive cases and/or their parents or legal guardians would instead be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and their close contacts would be traced and asked to follow relevant public health advice.

Contacts in an educational setting will be traced if the positive case specifically identified an individual as having close, prolonged contact which will normally have occurred in a social setting e.g. sleepovers.

A setting will not routinely be contacted to provide details of close contacts. However, education and childcare settings may be contacted, if deemed necessary, by local health protection teams in response to a local outbreak, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.