WOODCROFT NEWS EXTRA

EXTRA ISSUE 372

www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk

4th February 2020



Together Towards Success #AIMvalues



New on the website

Lots to look out for on our website:

- Sporting Success
- Check out the online calendar via the school website.

Forthcoming Events

February 2020

11th Reception classes have eyesight testing

11th SAFER INTERNET DAY

13th Year 3 Class Assembly families invited to watch at 2.15pm

14th Girls Football Match v Brooklands

Half Term Break 17th to 21st February

Twitter



PSHE Theme

In school we are thinking about:

Bike It Plus

How can we travel more sustainably?



Coronavirus Advice

We take the outbreak of coronavirus very seriously and are following Government guidelines regarding this matter. Please see the link below.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public

The latest information on this website is checked daily to review our procedures. As it stands there are NO cases of the virus in our area and only 2 confirmed cases in the whole of the UK.

Advice for parents/guardians from the DfE

The Department for Education states that you should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why children should not continue to attend their school as normal.

Woodcroft has taken the following sensible precautions:

- 1. Spoken to the pupils to reassure them about the very low risk and to dispel any myths about the virus.
- 2. Reminded pupils about how to maintain good hygiene.
- 3. Ensure that all classrooms are supplied with disinfectant wipes and tissues (this is our regular winter procedure).
- 4. Liaised with our cleaning contractor to ensure all surfaces are thoroughly cleaned.

Barnet Public Health recommends following usual winter season preventative measures as they reduce the spread of other respiratory viruses as well:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then bin the tissue. If tissue is not available, cough and sneeze in your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects such as keyboards.

For any queries and further information, contact:

PublicHealth@barnet.gov.uk

Generally, the coronavirus infection is mild but can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems. We have included a letter from the Barnet Council Public Health Team and NHS advice posters with this newsletter. If further guidance is issued we will review our procedures accordingly and share this with families.

CATCH IT

Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BINIT

Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT

Hands can transfer germs to every surface you touch. Clean your hands as soon as you can.









CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Find out more at gov.uk/coronavirus

Information on Wuhan novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Public Health Team, Barnet Council

We are working closely with Public Health England (PHE) to monitor the outbreak of Wuhan novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) globally and locally and will keep updating you accordingly.

As group, coronaviruses are common across the world. Typical symptoms of coronavirus infection include fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

Generally, coronavirus infection is mild but can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease. Most deaths in this outbreak have been in people with those characteristics.

Because it is a new virus, we are confronting an ongoing situation and the information is changing daily. Further guidance is in preparation and guidance documents are being regularly updated.

Please refer to the most recent versions at the below links:

- Most up to date guidance from PHE for the public: <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public</u>
- An Q&A blog updated by PHE: https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-kn
 ow/.
- The Foreign Office's advice on travel to and from China: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/china

All proceedings on managing 2019-nCoV, from initial detection and investigation of possible cases, infection prevention and control, to clinical diagnostics and treatment, are led globally by WHO, and in the UK by the NHS and PHE. There are robust protocols in place to isolate and manage cases of imported infections. Healthcare professionals have received advice and instructions, so they are well prepared to assist anyone who is suspected of having 2019-nCoV.

At Barnet Council, our role is to liaise regularly with PHE to share emerging information and provide guidelines to staff, members and the public and ensure business continuity.

Advice for all residents

Since there is currently no vaccine to prevent infection, the best way to do so is to avoid exposure to this virus. **At Barnet Public Health**, we would recommend following usual winter season preventative measures, as they reduce the spread of other respiratory viruses as well:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Stay at home when you are sick;
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then bin the tissue. If tissue is not available, cough and sneeze in your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects such as a keyboard.

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