



Our High Meadow Community 'Thought for the Week'



Charlie Mackesy

We wanted to tell the world how amazing you all are so....

Tamworth Herald

28 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021

School staff thank families for rising to challenge of home learning

By DAN NEWBOULD
News Reporter

TEACHERS and staff at Coleshill's High Meadow Community School came together to say thank you to all of their "amazing families and children".

Since the first lockdown in March 2020, every single family has risen to the challenges of this new way of learning.

Headteacher Debby Hughes said: "We have been blown away by the resilience, creativity and commitment of all of our families to their child's remote learning."

"It has been a huge ask of families to support their child's learning throughout this pandemic, with many of them working and juggling childcare too, but they have all risen to the challenge and we are so proud of every single one of them."

"We recognise that this has been a challenging period of time, but by coming together

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We have been blown away by the resilience, creativity and commitment of all of our families.
”
Headteacher Debby Hughes



Teachers and staff at Coleshill's High Meadow Community School say thank you to their parents and pupils for coping so well with the challenges of remote learning during the pandemic.

to support each other, the High Meadow School Community have shone through this pandemic with kindness, resilience and love."

One of the assistant head-teachers, Mrs Garbett, stated: "Every day, my colleagues and I teach live lessons and

set online learning too, and every day we are inspired by the wonderful quality of the learning happening in the children's homes. "I love seeing how parents react when they see their child engaging in philosophy lessons and violin lessons too - our parents and children are doing an amazing job."

teacher for Early Years, added: "Many of our families only joined us in September 2020 and have been incredible in supporting their young children's learning."

"I have really enjoyed watching the children retell stories, make story maps and develop their knowledge of place value through counting household objects, all supported by happy, hardworking supportive mums and dads."



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The Coleshill Post

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High Meadow Community School – Coleshill

All of the staff at High Meadow Community School on Norton Road in Coleshill want to say a HUGE thank you to all of their amazing families and children. Since the first LOCKDOWN in March 2020, every single family has risen to the challenges of this new way of learning.

The Headteacher Mrs Debby Hughes said "We have been blown away by the resilience, creativity and commitment of all of our families to their child's remote learning. It has been a huge ask of families to support their child's learning throughout this pandemic, with many of them working and juggling childcare too but they have all risen to the challenge and we are so proud of every single one of them"

One of the Assistant Headteachers, Mrs Garbett stated "Every day, my colleagues and I teach LIVE lessons and set online learning too, and every day we are inspired by the wonderful quality of the learning happening in the children's homes. I love seeing how parents react when they see their child engaging in LIVE Philosophy lessons and violin lessons too, our parents and children are doing an amazing job"

Mrs Windridge, the Assistant Headteacher for Early Years said "Many of our families only joined us in September 2020 and have been incredible in supporting their young children's learning, I have really enjoyed watching the children re-tell stories, make story maps and develop their knowledge of place value through counting household objects, all supported by happy, hardworking supportive mums and dads."

This is the reason why, the High Meadow Team wanted to come together to say a HUGE thank you to their school community. Mrs Hughes concluded by saying "We recognise that this has been a challenging period of time but by coming together to support each other, the High Meadow School Community have shone through this pandemic with kindness, resilience and love. Thank you, thank you, thank you"




Gung Hay Fat Choy

I like... and... and... and...

MON SICK

Darcy's Microhabitat for insects



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Keeping Everyone Safe in School – A Gentle Reminder



We are really looking forward to welcoming all children back into school next Monday 8th March. In preparation for this, we thought it would be useful to remind everyone of the staggered start and end times again and the systems we have in place to help keep everyone safe. The timings are slightly different to the current timings as there will be 180 children being dropped off not the few we currently have.

Staggered Start Times

Years 3 and 4 - Car drop off from 8.40am - 8.45am. Pick up at 3.10pm

Nursery - 8.45am - 3.15pm

Reception - 8.50am - 3.05pm

Years 1 and 2 - 8.55am - 3.00pm

There will be 180 children needing to be dropped off and we **STILL NEED TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING OUTSIDE THE GATES AND WEAR A FACE COVERING TOO.** With this in mind, can I remind everyone to please arrive just a couple of minutes before drop off.

Can I also remind parents to **hold your child's hand at ALL times** outside the school gate and as you walk up to school. Unfortunately, one of our High Meadow children was recently involved in a road accident on Norton Road and has suffered a broken leg as a result. **Please, please, please hold your child's hand at all times.**

Please park away from the school so as not to block neighbours driveways. The same with pick up too. Can I also remind parents to **not park opposite the school's yellow zig zags/gates.** I really do not want anyone to get parking fines and I certainly do not want any accidents.

Next week is going to be really busy as all 180 children settle back into their routines. Can I ask that if you need to pass a message onto class teachers, please do not talk to them at the school gate. They need to watch all 30 children and get them safely into class. We ask



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that you email the school admin team on admin2569@welearn365.com who will then pass the message on.

Entering the classroom

- The teacher/TA will administer anti-bac gel on your child's hands on entry to classroom.
- Children will sit at tables facing the teacher where possible.
- There will be no self-registration outside the classroom door, instead teachers will do an online register each morning and afternoon.

Playtimes

- The playground area will be segregated into class areas and rotated weekly.
- Classes will NOT mix with other classes, they have to stay in their own bubbles.
- Teaching assistants will be on duty with their own class.
- Wet play will happen in the classroom.

Lunchtime

- Due to the challenges of keeping children socially distanced and in their separate class bubbles in the school hall, all children will stay in their classes and have a deli bag or packed lunch. There will be a different deli bag each day (you will be notified of this) and this will continue for the first half term at least. If your child does not like the deli-bag then you are welcome to send in a packed lunch.
- Packed lunches need to contain wrappings that your child can open as staff should not be handling wrappers and food brought in from the child's home. Please practise opening packages NOW before next week, foil is much easier for a child to remove than cling film.
- Each child will be responsible for clearing and tidying up their own lunch time space in the classroom.
- For lunchtime play, the playground will be segregated into class bubble areas.

Behaviour

Due to the risk of transmission, we added an addendum to our Relationships and Behaviour Policy in September 2020. We have re-attached it to this newsletter as a gentle reminder to everyone. Please note, as stated in this addendum, if a child spits in school, they will be excluded for up to three days, as a result of the serious risk of transmission.

COVID 19 symptoms in your child

Any child displaying symptoms of COVID19 must be sent home to be tested. As we are not medical professionals, it is difficult for us to determine whether a child has cold or COVID symptoms so, to keep the whole school community safe we WILL call you and ask you to take your child to be tested if they show ANY ONE of the symptoms outlined on the NHS website. These are ...





a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

a 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)

a 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

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms. If your child is showing these symptoms at home, please do not send them into school.

If a child tests positive for COVID 19 then the **WHOLE** class bubble will need to self-isolate for 10 days. Please ensure you have emergency plans in place if this does happen. Remote teaching, will then take place and your child will be expected to engage in online learning for the whole period of isolation, unless they become too unwell to do so.

You can find out more here...

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms>

Lateral Flow Testing for all Staff

We are continuing Lateral Flow testing twice a week in school for staff. This regular testing may pick up positive results even if a member of staff is not showing symptoms. This could mean there is **a higher risk of bubbles bursting** as if any staff member in the key stage bubble tests positive, then the **WHOLE BUBBLE** has to isolate for 10 days. This means that your child will not be allowed in school and they will need to isolate at home. They will still need to engage in remote learning during the 10 day isolation period so please ensure you have plans in place if this happens.

The Great Realisation

I have shared this beautiful poem with all of my staff this week and feel compelled to share it as widely as possible too. It's a poignant look at the global pandemic that we have all experienced. You may wish to share it with your child but please watch it beforehand as you may decide not to, after viewing it. I hope you enjoy it as much as we all have.





No Outsiders ZOOM Meeting

At High Meadow Community School, we want to deliver a curriculum that enables our children to understand the benefits that exist in a society where difference and diversity are celebrated. The principle of equality is that everyone is treated fairly without suffering discrimination or prejudice because of race, religion, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. There are no outsiders. We want to teach our children to respect and accept diversity and difference and so later this term we will be introducing 'No Outsiders' throughout our whole school. 'No Outsiders' is a proactive approach to tackling discrimination by encouraging our children to really value and celebrate each other. Our school rules are to be **Ready, Respectful and Safe** and the 'No Outsiders' ethos fits in with this perfectly. On Wednesday 10th March at 4pm we will be hosting a meeting for parents via Zoom to share more information about 'No Outsiders' and how it will be used at our school. We will forward a ZOOM invite to everyone early next week via email, we would love to see as many people there as possible. Thank you.

Larks and Owls Update

We are thrilled to share with you, that over the Lockdown period, we have successfully negotiated for FunFest to take over and run our before and after school provision and school holiday clubs. All of the Larks and Owls staff are in the process of being transferred to FunFest and are looking forward to working with such an energetic, fun and creative company. Julie Whitehouse (business manager) will not transfer to FunFest as she is now working full-time in our school office. Funfest is OFSTED registered and all staff are trained in safeguarding and first aid.

Funfest will take over the running of the club from **Monday 15th March** so all bookings will need to be made via your key contact person, Josie Wilkinson. She can be contacted via email on coleshillmoffice@funfestbeforeandafterschoolclub.co.uk

From Monday 15th March any communication regarding before and after school provision and holiday clubs **MUST** be via FunFest as our school office staff will no longer have access to club registers, etc. Josie will be inviting all club users to a ZOOM meeting where you can meet her face-to-face (virtually) and ask her any questions you may have. We will share the details of this meeting early next week.

Please follow this link to the FunFest website to find out more about this new and exciting change <https://fun-fest.co.uk/about-us/> You will eventually book and pay all fees via this website. Please note that the 'High Meadow' part of the FunFest website is yet to be updated for the Before and After School Club, but Josie will let you know when it is ready.





Events and Activities

Attached to this week's newsletter, you will find the Spring and Summer Events and Activities plan. Due to continued COVID restrictions, there are many things that we are still unable to do but we are thrilled to share with you that on Friday 25th June 2021, we will be inviting EVERYONE to come and celebrate the official opening of our new Key Stage 2 building, The Burrow. More details will follow but we can't wait until we are all safe enough to throw open our school gates again.

Support for you and your children during these challenging times

Warwickshire School Health and Wellbeing Service

Warwickshire School Health and Wellbeing Service (WSHWBS) is here to support school-age children and young people and parents/carers with any issues relating to health and wellbeing. Parents/carers can get advice from a nurse by texting Parentline, our confidential text messaging service, on **07520 619 376**, or by calling **03300 245 204**. We're available **Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4.30pm**.

Family Lives

Family Lives is a service that provides guidance to families with issues including family breakdown, challenging relationships and behaviour, debt, and emotional and mental wellbeing. Their team are now working with WSHWBS to help provide a wider level of support for Warwickshire families. They can be contacted via their helpline on **0808 800 2222** – it's open **Monday-Friday 9am-9pm** and **weekends 10am-3pm**. You can also email askus@familylives.org.uk, start an online chat on their website, or speak to other parents in their online forum community.

The Family Support Line - 01926 412412 is also continuing to operate during the lockdown period offering advice, support and guidance for parents, carers and professionals.

Warwickshire COVID Advice and Updates

Click on the picture below for more information



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And finally, thank you, you are amazing....



Kindest regards

Mrs Debby Hughes – Head teacher head2569@welearn365.com

Mr Jonathan Smith – Chair of Governors governors2569@welearn365.com



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