



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School Mousehold Avenue Norwich NR3 4RS
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14th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have enjoyed another week at school. You might be aware, through our school Facebook page, that it has been **Mental Health Awareness** week with a focus on nature. We have been enjoying the outdoors, as usual, and really appreciated our lovely grounds. Our Mental Health Champions have helped us all highlight the importance of talking about our mental health.

It was good to hear some news that some national Covid restrictions are lifting soon due to a decrease in infection rate. **As a school we remain vigilant and our full risk assessment is still in place.**

We are pleased to announce that in line with the national easing of restrictions, from **Monday 17th May, face masks will not need to be worn on the school playground**, as long as we all continue to **social distance** outside. If you are more comfortable wearing a mask then this is welcomed. If you need to talk to a teacher and this involves a close distance then please wear a face mask. Teachers will still be wearing masks at the classroom doors. Please ensure your children continue to stand with you, and don't run around mixing with children from other bubbles. Our bubble system is still in place.

We do not plan on changing the times to the school day even if restrictions lift in full at the end of this term. We will keep with the staggered timings of the school day because I know some families have altered working arrangements to accommodate this and it is also a system that children are familiar with. **We will go back to timings of 8.50am – 3pm for Reception to Year 2 in September** (unless of course guidance doesn't allow for this.)

The **School Council** have been meeting virtually with Mrs Jennings and are doing a great job. We asked them the question, **'What do you feel makes Mousehold a happy, healthy and successful school?'** Previous to the meeting the school council reps had talked to the children in their class about this and this is what they shared at the meeting:

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Westall Deputy Headteacher: Mr Ian Tolson
Designated safeguarding leads: Mrs Westall, Mr Tolson, Miss Wood



'We are generous and kind to our friends. The Buddy Bench helps us make our friends happy. The people, the classes and the things we make for others. We have lots of fruit at playtime and lots of people ask others to play together. Everyone is kind. The food at school is really healthy. All the flowers outside that we take care of make us smile. We have so many lovely spaces in our school. '

Positive cases of Covid - w/b 10th May - We have had no positive cases this week.

Safeguarding

There is an excellent website called **Just One Norfolk** designed to support Norfolk families. You will find support on there for:

- Childhood illnesses
- Pregnancy
- Staying safe
- Healthy lifestyles
- Emotional health
- Child development and additional needs

Follow the link and have a browse. <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/>

Please remember to look at our website to remind you of how safeguarding is always the main priority at Mousehold.

<https://www.mouseholdinfants.com/safeguarding/>

Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Westall, Mr Tolson, Miss Wood

These members of staff monitor and manage all safeguarding practices and ensure staff are supported and have the training they need. Please ask to see one of these adults if you are worried about the safety of a child at school.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child out of school hours then the number to ring is:

CADS – Children's Advice and Duty Service - 0344 800 8020.

Holidays during term-time

As the Government begin to lift some travel restrictions families will begin to think of booking holidays, we have attached a letter regarding absence from school and legal intervention to remind you that holidays cannot be authorized and you may be liable for a fine. Please remember if leave is needed, a leave of absence form must be completed, these can be obtained from the school office.

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GoGo Discover Trail - 2022. The year of the dinosaur!

Please see attached flyer. This is a very exciting project.
Watch this space for upcoming events. You can also make a donation via Parentmail.

Staff Survey

We have recently carried out a staff survey and here are some of the responses. It is good for you to know that your children are taught and supported by a very strong team of dedicated staff:

The school puts the children first always!

There is always someone to talk to.

I believe the main strengths of Mousehold include:

- A warm and welcoming community of staff and families*
- Supportive networking to build staff up (as a result high morale)*
- Putting the children first (everything we do feels valuable and child focused)*

Safeguarding is addressed strongly.

Each child and staff member is valued, listened to, supported and encouraged to do their best. It has a rich and varied curriculum with a creative and nurturing environment. Our school has a versatile and varied community of which we embrace as our whole school community.

The strong team of staff have supported each other so well through challenging times and good times too. Supportive families. The most amazing children you could wish to work with – the diversity adds so much to our school. It really is a privilege to work with the children of Mousehold and get to know them all as individuals.

Term Dates

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

Last day of Summer Term – Friday 16th July.

Other dates

Individual School reports will be sent home on Friday 9th July.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation,

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Westall

Headteacher

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