



We are so excited to have all the pupils and staff back at school together after so many months apart. The staff have been enthusiastic, positive and have worked really hard this week to make sure that their classroom is a fun, safe and consistent environment for the pupils. Some of our processes and procedures operationally have changed in school which we are still getting used to but I'd like to thank the staff for supporting the 'new normal' and working with the senior leadership team.

The pupils have come back grown, matured, showing new skills, enthusiastic and full of joy, smiles and giggles. They have settled back into familiar routines with familiar peers and adults and it's been a fantastic week for them.

Welcome to Becca, our play therapist who is covering Alanna whilst she is on maternity leave and welcome to Charlotte who has joined the OT team. We also officially welcome Fatou, Mason and their families to Greenmead. Both of these pupils actually started at Greenmead just as we went into lockdown and whilst they've very much been a part of the Greenmead community over lockdown it is lovely to have them with us in school.

The bubble structure is working well and whilst pupils from different bubbles can't mix with each other the staff have found creative ways for them to still interact with each other. There was a lovely moment this week when I went outside to find a choir had formed with some pupils in the playground and some pupils on the balcony singing to one another. Whilst we can't meet in person for assembly we are still going to have assembly live streamed into the classrooms and which can also be viewed on Instagram Live at the new time of 2pm each Friday. The dropping off and picking up of pupils is going well and thank you to everyone for being patient, working with us and allowing us to safely transition pupils into/out of school as quickly as we can. If you'd like to give us any feedback on this please do email me at head@greenmead.wandsworth.sch.uk

The pupils have grown so much since we last saw them that the therapy team are working hard to make sure that equipment still fits the pupils and making adjustments as quickly as possible. Thank you to the therapy team who ran clinics over the summer holidays to try to speed up this process so that everyone can get back to having the correct equipment in place for seating, standing and walking.

This week we have already had 5 EHCP reviews as we try to catch up with those missed in the summer term. These have been delivered via TEAMS and it is an opportunity for you and the team to meet to share information of where your child is now and our key priorities for them over the coming months.

I am very much looking forward to this year and am confident that even through the challenges which may still face us in these exceptional times the community of Greenmead will continue to support each other and keep the vision, values and ethos of Greenmead alive for pupils, their families, staff and our wider community.

Toni

Nursing Updates

We are very pleased to share with you that we've been able to work with the CCG over the summer holidays secure another two nurses to Greenmead over the Covid period to support the team. This is not a permanent provision but it's good to have this while it lasts and we will continue to work with the CCG to secure a more permanent provision moving forward. We are working with agencies at the moment to find the best nurses to work alongside Rose and Amanda and our school community and will share with you in due course who they are.

The Flu Vaccination Clinic run by Wandsworth Immunisation Team is being held at school on **9th October**. A free flu vaccine is given via a nasal spray is available for all children aged 4 – 11 years. If your child is younger than 4, you are still entitled to a free flu vaccine given at your GP clinic, not at school. Consent forms will be sent home. Please could these be returned by the 21st September.

Therapy Updates

The therapy team are back in school and in order to minimise movement around school and between bubbles to reduce risk the therapists have been timetabled to attend bubbles for sessions. It is hoped that this will allow us to meet at a minimum the provision for each pupil and for the therapy team to be able to participate effectively in the EHCP catch up programme necessitated as a result of the lockdown. An advantage of the therapist being in a bubble for a session is that in addition to seeing pupils face to face they can also continue to support school staff to carry out the integrated therapy model that we practice within Greenmead. We are also looking at further equipment and orthotics/wheelchair clinics to run at school as much of the equipment will need reviewing.

Physiotherapy: Ellen Spear has commenced her maternity leave and Barbara has been working with the physiotherapy CTL at St Georges to provide cover for Ellen's maternity leave. We are pleased to announce that Kasanne Minowa-Astridge will be joining us for 2 days a week. Some of you will remember Kas from her previous time with us at Greenmead and some of you will remember her from Small Steps.

Occupational Therapy: We are delighted to share that Francesca Benford is pregnant and we have been joined by Charlotte Done who will work with Cheska until she starts her maternity leave in November. Barbara is trying to secure cover for Cheska's maternity leave and will keep you updated on this.

Speech and Language Therapy: Naomi Honey is still on maternity leave but Hayley Soper and Barbara will continue to cover her classes until she returns.

Therapy Assistants: In order to comply with social distancing in the therapy office we have placed the assistants in specific pathway bubbles to enable them to support the class staff with the therapy programmes as well as providing a valuable link between the classes and the therapists. They will be supported by therapists from each discipline who will continue to see pupils in those bubbles too.

Curriculum and Therapy Resources

Thank you to everyone who sent back curriculum and therapy resources borrowed over lockdown. We are still missing quite a few switch activated toys. Please do return these next week so that we can clean them and use them for the pupils in school to continue practicing their switching skills. Please have a look around the house for these over the weekend and return them with your child to school on Monday.

Please also send in your child's communication books and devices. It is very important that they have access to this both at home and at school every day.

Covid Updates

We are attempting to keep the Covid page on the website as up to date as possible so please do take a look at current guidance and support. As many of you will know there are new restrictions coming into effect on **Monday 14th September** due to a rise in the numbers of people testing positive for Covid. It is a reminder that we are still in the midst of a pandemic and we want to keep vigilant and keep safety precautions in place. As of Monday social gatherings of more than six people indoors or outdoors will be illegal in England. This does not apply to schools so school will continue to be open for all staff and pupils. For more information visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-what-has-changed-9-september>

Most families have experienced upheaval in their daily lives during the pandemic. With children and young people now back at school or college, the new Public Health England (PHE) Better Health – Every Mind Matters campaign provides NHS-endorsed tips and advice to help children and young people's mental wellbeing, and equip parents and carers with the knowledge to support them. To find out more visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-health-england-launches-new-every-mind-matters-campaign>



Activity Station, based in Barnes are pleased to let you know that throughout September (starting Sunday September 6th) and October, they will continue their online programme every Sunday both at 12pm and 3pm. There will be a variety of sessions including art, pottery, music, singing, drumming and drama.

If you are interested, please email them at activitystation@outlook.com or call on 07444 881962 and they will send you an invitation to join these sessions.

