
KS2

15.1.2021

INFORMATION FOR KEY STAGE TWO, WOODLAND HEIGHTS

Term 1 2021

SPLIT CLASSES

Please click [here](#) for the split class lists for KS2.

First school day for Group A:
Monday 18th January

First school day for Group B:
Tuesday 19th January

These first two days of term will be for settling in and orientation - **there will be no online lessons.**

ONLINE LEARNING

Resources & Materials: Google Classroom

Video sessions: Google Meet

Welcome back to school! We trust that there was an opportunity to rest somewhat and enjoy the lovely weather (but not at the beach...)

Today's newsletter has lots of information in it in preparation for next week. Please continue to look out for further communications in case arrangements have to change with government rules and guidelines.

Although we knew to expect a second wave and the changes that would go along with that, we had hoped to have a more 'normal' start to the year before these came into play.

However in the interests of safety and health, **we will start the year off with half classes on alternate days. The children will join online on their non-school days.**

We will continue to use Google Classroom for materials & resources, and Google Meet as our video app.

Year 3 Parents: Year 3s will have slightly different arrangements for the first week. Please look out for a separate email with information about online learning and the staggered start on the first day.

We are now expecting that we may have to work entirely online from Wednesday 20th January.

In this case, all children will join in with video lessons via Google Meet from Wednesday.

School Days:

Temperature check 7:00-7:40
Registration 7:45-8:00
First lesson starts 8:00
School days ends 14:10-14:15
No ECAs or Aftercare

Home Learning Days:

Sign in to video registration 7:45
Lessons begin at 8:00
Video camera ON
Microphone OFF (mute)
Children should be seated in a suitable work area, appropriately dressed, and ready for lessons; headphones are strongly recommended
Please encourage a school-like routine - no toys or eating 'in class'

Arrangements for the First Week: 18-22 January

You should receive an email from class teachers today with more information about the first week of school for each specific class.

Please note that there will be no video sessions or online lessons posted on Monday 18th January and Tuesday 19th January.

The first two days of school will be for the children to settle into their new classes in-person. They will also be set up with their school iPads to take home if needed.

Please ensure that you have completed the Google Form to accept responsibility for school devices at home.

The 'normal' timetable of subject lessons will be followed from Wednesday 20th January.

[It is likely that this will take place online. Children will need to sign into the Google Meet video lessons.](#)

We understand that there may be some technical difficulties initially – please don't panic!

END OF DAY TIMINGS

Siblings can be collected at the time of the later class.

Year 5 & 6 - 14:10

Year 3 & 4 - 14:15

Fridays:

Year 5 & 6 - 13:30

Year 3 & 4 - 13:35

Unfortunately we will not be able to start our Enrichment programme of ECAs in the second week as originally planned, and we are not able to offer any kind of after-school supervision at this point.

We hope to soon adopt our plan of extended enrichment days (to provide Extra-Curricular Activities) and we will let you know further details about after-school activities/supervision as soon as possible.

PARENT INFO SESSIONS

Parent Info sessions for each class/year group will be held via Zoom rather than in person as originally planned.

Year 3: Wednesday 20th January
14:30

Year 4: Wednesday 20th January
15:30

Year 5: Wednesday 20th January
17:00

Year 6: Thursday 21st January 17:00

Tech Support

If you're struggling with the online learning apps or need advice about tech for online learning, please contact techsupport@isct.co.za

For classroom or lesson-related queries please continue to contact your class teacher.

Tips for general troubleshooting:

- For poor connections or audio issues with Google Meet videos, sometimes leaving the Meet video and re-joining can solve this problem.
- Don't forget that many tech issues can be resolved by re-starting the device.
- On an iPad, you can 'force re-start' by pressing and holding the Power AND Home buttons simultaneously. Keep pressing/holding until the screen goes black and then the Apple logo appears.

The iPad should restart on its own. Hold the power button again if it does not.



**When in
doubt,
reboot!**

LEARNING FROM HOME VIA VIDEO:

-ALL children at home must be visible via video at the start of each lesson. Teachers will let children know if they should turn off cameras.

-Children must have microphone muted unless the teacher requests them to turn on the mic (for a discussion or to answer a question).

-Please note that teachers cannot respond to messages and emails during teaching time.

-We will try to help whenever possible with technical difficulties, but it may be necessary for the children working at home via video to be patient while a teacher works with a class of children as well as trying to help those on video.

-Teachers will include and address children at home where possible, but it should not be the expectation that children working at home online will be able to participate 'normally' in the lesson discussions.