

PRIORYFIELDS
PATIENTS' GROUP
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1/2020

PPG Welcome to the Patients Group page on Priory Fields Website. This is a group of patients and staff who meet voluntarily at regular intervals to provide means for patients to make positive suggestions to the practice about healthcare, encourages health education activities within the practice and can be called upon to act as a representative group to influence local provision of Health & Social Care. The group is NOT a forum to discuss medical needs or concerns of individuals.

Due to the restrictions caused by the Covid Pandemic it has not been possible to hold our popular Health Information Evenings this year, nor to meet face to face each month as normal. However, we have used Zoom meetings to keep in touch with issues within the practice and keep up to date with Government restrictions which are felt necessary to restrict the spread of the virus and protect the NHS. We hope it will be clear from what follows on our page that the practice is still operating well whilst ensuring the safety of staff and patients.

SERVICES A few services have had to be postponed for safety reasons, but most are running as normal.

We are minimising face-to-face contact for the safety of staff and patients, but are still bringing people in to the practice where here is a necessity to do so. We understand that this is a difficult time for everyone and thank you for your support in dealing with these changes. However, DO ensure that you contact us with any concerns with your health.

FLU Of course we were unable to run our normal very successful flu days this year, but the new arrangements which were put in place have worked very well. So far 1,800 people have been vaccinated. Do please contact the surgery if you are eligible for the vaccination and wish to book an appointment.

COVID there has been a great deal of publicity about the likelihood of Covid 19 vaccinations becoming available over the next month. This is still in the very early stages, but please be assured that we will keep you updated when we have more information from NHS England.

STAFF We are sorry to advise you that Dr Cross is leaving us at the end of December. We send her our very best wishes for her future.

However, in December we will be welcoming Dr. Shanmugam to the practice and Dr Halstead and Dr. Sofronieva-Gilbert will join us in January.

It gives us pleasure to tell you that Emily Ross has now been appointed permanent Practice Manager and Chelsea Wilson is now Assistant Practice Manager.

We have two people working under the Apprenticeship Scheme, and warmly welcome Caitlyn and Olivia.