



Newsletter | 18

29th January 2021



Attendance

This week the Prime Minister announced that all schools would be closed until at least 8th March. Due to this extended period of school closure, it is really important that all children attend their online learning every day, unless they are in school.

Attendance is marked daily for both children in school and children working online via Teams. Therefore, please can I ask that you inform school if your child is not attending online for any reason. This should be done following the usual procedure for things such as illness or appointments. Please call the school office on 01980 842293.

It is really important that children attend their lessons and complete independent tasks set by the teacher. You also need to continue supporting children with their reading, phonics, spellings and number skills (such as number bonds and times tables).

Online Expectations

Please remind your children to interact appropriately during lesson time as they would in school. For example, children should not be eating during lessons. Please also ensure that children do not change their background or use 'chat' and emojis, unless requested by the teacher.

Covid Safety Update

For parents of children coming into school, I would like to update you on the safety procedures in place. Firstly, we always ensure we have small groups (15 maximum) so that children can be safely spaced out around the classroom. We also make sure that children keep washing and sanitising their hands during the day. Staff working in school also take twice-weekly Covid tests.

Children in school continue to access the learning from the teacher, and TAs give daily feedback to their teachers.

Children's Mental Health Week

Mental health and well-being are more important than ever, particularly during the cold winter weather when it is harder to get outside. Please encourage your children to spend time away from the screen and get outside for exercise when and where it is safe to do so.

Next week it is **Children's Mental Health Week** and the theme this year is *'Express Yourself'*. Next week, we will be focusing on well-being activities. To mark the end of the week on Friday all the children will be able to attend online lessons wearing their own choice of clothes which represents them on our **Dress to Express** day! Children might want to wear their favourite colours, a special item of clothing or dress in their favourite clothes. Children attending school can also wear their favourite clothes.

Design Project

On 12th February, the last day of term, we will be doing a whole-school design project. Please get ready by collecting some recycling/junk modelling items such as cardboard.

Critical Workers

A reminder that children of critical workers can only attend school when:

- **both parents are critical workers**
- **both parents are in work that day**
- **there is no alternative childcare option**

Please let us know as soon as possible if you have booked a place which you no longer need as it can then be reallocated to another child who needs it.

Please note that for children in school, on Friday 12th February, we finish after lunch as usual for half term. 12.55pm for the lower school (Nursery to Year 2). 1.05pm for the upper school (Years 3-6).

For parents of children still coming into school:

Please note, you must still follow the Covid rules and **no children must come to school with any symptoms or if members of the household have symptoms**

Guidance on Symptoms

If your child develops any symptoms of Covid-19, he/she and any siblings must not come into school for 10 days from the first day of the symptoms.

Symptoms are:

High temperature; New/Continuous Cough; Loss of Smell or Taste

You must arrange for your child to be **tested** as soon as possible.

If your child receives a **negative test**, he/she and any siblings may return to school.

If your child receives a **positive test**, he/she and any siblings should remain off school for 10 days from **the date of the positive test and school must be notified.**

If it is known that your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, your child must isolate for 10 days, even if they have no symptoms.