



Weekly Bulletin

Term 2 Week 10 : Friday 11th March 2022

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Developing lively, inquiring and creative minds

Good morning everyone and welcome to our weekly newsletter.

It feels like you have already had lots of information from me this week and sadly it has mostly been concerned with the Covid outbreak in school. There is no sugar coating or avoiding the subject, so I will just say that we have had a challenging week with the highest number of known Covid cases and highest Covid related absence rate in school since the pandemic began. We now have over 40 positive cases in school this week – the vast majority of these cases are in older classes/key stage 2, but with no class unaffected.

As well as the Covid cases we have also had some sickness and general seasonal ailments to contend with. Operationally things have been made more challenging by a high number of staff absences.

I would like to offer well wishes to all of the children, families, staff (and staff team's children and family members) who are affected by Covid at this time. We wish everyone a speedy return to full health.

I would also like to say thank you to the overwhelming majority of families who have been very understanding, supportive and proactive in managing potential and actual Covid cases. Your support is very much appreciated. Thank you.

A huge thank you also has to go to my staff team, for their resilience, efforts and continued focus on the children, at this challenging time, with many people doing extra duties, cover, and other supporting roles whilst we have had 25% of our staff team absent.

As the week has progressed the rise in case numbers has thankfully slowed a little and I hope moving forward the overall impact and absence level will begin to decrease.

Advice:

- Over the next few days and weeks we encourage you to monitor your child for any symptoms, and where possible we encourage you to lateral flow test. Many of the children who are positive have reported a headache as one of their main symptoms.
- For those pupils currently absent with Covid, please remember that current advice still remains that the earliest a child can return to school is on day 6, after a negative day 5 and day 6 test (24 hours apart). If either test remains positive then the child should not return until 10days after testing positive or until they have two consecutive negative daily tests (24 hours apart) – whichever is sooner.

Other news:

- Following our world book day celebrations, Mrs Burton and I wanted to share the following information with you with regards to the importance of continuing to read to children as they get older. Here is an article that explains more: [Blog: Carry on reading aloud: reading to older children | Oxford Owl](#)
All children benefit from reading out loud, being read to and enjoying sharing a book at bedtime.
Please also do remember to use/spend your World Book Day Voucher.
- Red nose day: Next Friday (18th March) is Comic Relief/ Red Nose day. To support this worthy cause, we will be holding a non-uniform day. Children will be allowed to wear red nose merchandise. We welcome donations for non-uniform day (suggested minimum donation £1).
- Reading for pleasure Club - next week is the last week of Reading for Pleasure club for both KS1 and KS2
- This half term each class in school are watching the NSPCC Speak Out & Stay Safe assembly. Ant and Dec introduce Buddy and the important 'speak out and keep safe' message to the children via an age appropriate online assembly. Please see my attached letter for further information about this valuable and important message

Regards and best wishes

Jon Watson

Head teacher

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