



Weekly Bulletin

Term 2 Week 13 : Friday 1st April 2022

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Developing lively, inquiring and creative minds

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. There is lots to I would like to share with you this week, both celebrating things that have happened and informing you about things still to come.

It has been strange week weather wise, as we all are back to wearing coats, scarves and hats and experiencing snow yesterday and today after the Spring warmth of last week – the joys of British weather!

Covid.

There can't have been many weeks in the last 2 years that I haven't had to mention Covid. This week we have to mention the change in response to 'dealing with Covid' that comes into place today. Thankfully cases in the school community are low in number and seriousness at this current point. Well wishes to all currently affected.

As of today, 1st April 2022, the response to Covid changes, as free access to Lateral Flow Tests and PCR is no longer in place. How we are now told to act in response to feeling unwell and potentially being covid positive has also changed.

Please see the information below directly from the Department of Education (DfE):

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April.

Updated advice:

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature*
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend*
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days*

Together we navigate our way through this new period. Pupil absence and staff absence due to Covid has been so high for our school and so many other schools at points this term, bringing challenges for us all. For example, yesterday was the first day in the last 5 weeks when I haven't had a staff absence because of Covid. Switching our response to Covid, which clearly hasn't gone away, is necessary but equally will also bring some challenges too. However together we will get through this next period and will quickly adapt to the lack of testing and 'get on with it' approach.

Zoom Production

I need to say that the children of Year 2 (Andes Class) and Year 3 (Himalayas class) have been working extremely hard rehearsing and filming their production. This will be shared next week – more details to follow. The children and the staff team's efforts have been excellent and I have sneaked into the hall to watch some scenes as the children have been singing and performing. Looking and sounding really good. Thank you for the wonderful costumes - the children all look great! I can't wait to see Zoom!

Assessment

Across school the children have been completing their PUMA tests (Maths) as part of our end of term assessments. Last week the children did their PIRA tests (reading). This is part of a long standing termly data collection to monitor progress and attainment.

In May Year 6 pupils (from Rocky class) take their Key Stage 2 National Curriculum tests or SATs (week beginning 9th May). In addition, Year 2 children (Andes class) will be completing their end of Key Stage 1 assessments the following week (Monday 16th May). Both of these sets of standardised tests are compulsory and taken by all pupils across the country – these tests were cancelled for the last two years because of the Covid pandemic.

Year 6, Miss Craven and team, and of course the pupils themselves, have been working hard as we start to prepare for these important assessments. Unlike some school we have ensured the children still have access to a rich, broad and balanced curriculum rather than purely focusing on Reading, Writing, and Maths. However, we are now also giving the children opportunities to complete practise papers, in order for them to experience the style of questions and gain familiarity of the experience, so that they can give their best account of themselves in the formal tests. We want the children to be prepared but not daunted or worried – we want them to be able to showcase their talents and show what they know!

It is really important that both Year 2 and Year 6 pupils have excellent attendance over the next few weeks either side of the Easter break.

Term dates:

- Just a reminder that next Friday (8th April) school breaks up for the Easter Holidays. Children return to school on Monday 25th April.
- Within the next half term, we do have the May Bank holiday on Monday 2nd May.
- A reminder we also have a training day directly before the May half term (which includes the Jubilee bank holidays). The last day of the half term for the children in Thursday 26th May.
- Children then return on Monday 6th June and term ends for the summer break on Friday 22nd July 2022

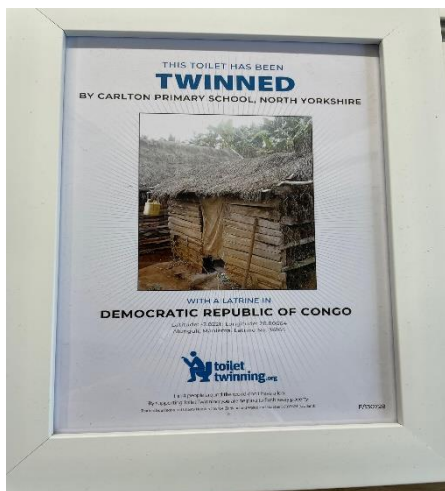
Easter plans

As outlined last week we have a variety of Easter celebrations planned next week.

- On Friday 8th we are visiting St Mary's Church in Carlton for an Easter Assembly and service with Reverend Becky. As with the Harvest and Christmas visits, we will not be 'fully opening' this up to all parents, but will again welcome some volunteers to help walk with us at 11.00

am for the short service (11.15 start) and return to school. Please do let the office know if you wish to accompany us.

- 'Easter Egg decorating competition': It is time to get egg decorating! Children can decorate their own hard boiled egg or work with an adult as a family entry. If you would like to participate simply get your egg decorated and bring it into school next week on Wednesday 6th or Thursday 7th April for judging on the Thursday. Prizes and Winners will be shared on Friday. All children will get to see the egg entries in school and photos will be shared.
- A reminder that there is also a virtual Easter **'Bunny Race'** 'run by Mrs Pierce and the Friends of Carlton team, with great Easter prizes for the lucky winners. Closing date is Wednesday for the final bunnies. The Race is to be run on Thursday and again prizes and winners will be shared on the Friday. Please see parentmail for more information.



Toilet and Tap twinning – Thank you for your support.

Via Rev Becky and helpers Monday cake sales have now raised £160 during Lent towards 2 toilets in Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our first certificate arrived this week too! Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Next week and beyond

- Next week's swimming session on Thursday is the last of this current block.
- Over the Easter break we are having further redecorating of school – this time the classrooms for our older children are being painted and having some refurbishment. Pyrenees class and Rocky class will have freshly painted rooms and new display boards for their post Easter return.
- Clubs: The only two clubs that are running for next week is Doncaster Rovers (Monday) and Young Voices (Tuesday) – this is our last Young Voices rehearsal before the show!
- Next week we will be sending out sign up information for Doncaster Rovers After School club (Monday afternoons) for the summer term.
- Friday (8th April) school breaks up for the Easter Holidays

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Regards and best wishes

Jon Watson

Head teacher

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