



Weekly Newsletter – 25th February 2022

It has been so lovely to welcome everyone back after half term.

We are excited that next week is World Book Day and staff costume preparations are well underway. Hopefully as many children as possible can dress up to celebrate their favourite books. It is perfect timing as it is coinciding with the launch of our new reading books for the Early Years, Key Stage 1 and beyond. Mr Rawes will be writing today to explain more.

A new date for your diary. Parent Evening Consultations will be taking place in person on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 29th and 30th March. Details on how to book will be coming out soon.

The government have recently changed the guidance on 'living with Covid' and I wanted to share some of the information that schools have been getting. It is very new and may change in time but presently this is what we know

Some things that won't change:

- We will still be continuing with enhanced cleaning routines.
- Ventilation procedures will remain.
- We will continue to give children the positive hygiene messages and encourage hand washing at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Children who are positive should not attend school. They will be required to stay at home for 'at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days'.
- School attendance rules are unchanged and children with Covid will be marked as 'ill'.
- The school will continue to provide remote education for any children at home who are well enough to work. The legal status of this will be reviewed at the end of the academic year.

Some things that will change:

- From yesterday, no individual is legally required to isolate.
- Staff have been testing twice a week using LFT/LFDs. This will no longer be the case from today and the Government will not be making test kits available from the 1st April. We will, of course, be taking the sensible route – if staff are feeling unwell (even if mild) or show any symptoms, they will take a test.
- Schools will no longer be responsible for tracing close contacts. The NHS track and trace team will work with individuals in some cases but routine contact tracing will end on Thursday.
- Face coverings are no longer advised for anyone on school site but we may be advised to reinstate this for staff by the Director of Public Health. I also want staff to feel comfortable at all times on site and should there be a number of cases in a particular class, staff will be given the option to wear a mask.
- Children between the ages of 5 and 11 will be offered a vaccine from April this year. This will, of course, be a personal choice but the government (and schools) are keen to encourage take up.

See here for details <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jcvi-update-on-advice-for-covid-19-vaccination-of-children-aged-5-to-11/jcvi-statement-on-vaccination-of-children-aged-5-to-11-years-old>

School computer system

We appreciate all of you that are wanting to make payments to your current balances with the school, however we ask that you bear with us whilst the office staff set up the new system. As you can imagine it is a huge task.

Absence:

If your child is of School due to illness, you **must** telephone the absence line on 01442 406 500, option 1, by 9.15am.

School Car Park gates

If the office staff allow you to enter the school via the car park gates, please can you not leave the gates for any other visitors as the school needs to be aware of all people on the school site.

Awards of the Week

Sports Performer of the Week

Isaac

Attendance of the Week

Year 3

Stars of the Week

Year 1	Layla
Year 2	Shaan-Ali
Year 3	Lucas
Year 4	Zayn
Year 5	Haniah
Year 6	Hadleigh

Term Dates for 2022

Spring Term 2022

Friday 1st April 2022 – finish at 1.30 pm

Monday 4th April 2022 to Monday 18th April 2022

Last Day of Spring Term

Easter Holiday

Key Dates

Thursday 3rd March

Thursday 21st April

Tuesday 3rd May 2021

Thursday 19th May 2021

Monday 13th to Thursday 16th June 2021

The revised date for Young Voices is 26th April (more information to be provided soon)

World Book day

Class Photos

Year 4 and 5 Trip to Kew Gardens

NHS Health Screening in Reception

Year 5/6 Residential Trip to Tolmers Scout Camp