

Friday 9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



I can't celebrate enough just how hard everyone in school is working. In addition to delivering our usual curriculum content, there is group work, catch up interventions (such as Doodle, Whole Class Reading, model writing, focus work on our wellbeing and mental health and 'catch up' bikeability) and lots of fun. The children have received so many class Do Jo points and all are well deserved.

Within the social distancing and other measures in place to reduce transmission, staff are working to provide a calm, happy and friendly atmosphere where everyone is expected to be the best they can be. I say this to emphasise that, whilst we continue as normal as possible, we are also grateful for each and every day that we work without disruption due to the coronavirus.

We work closely with other schools as part of a wider cluster so we know there have been cases within local schools. The response to each is very individual and will depend on so many factors including close contacts. In each case the DFE and Public Health support Headteachers in deciding action to take which include sending some children and staff home to isolate.

The information does change as the public health team learn more but I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the official Government guidance in relation to COVID-19 to ensure that you and your families stay as safe as possible at all times.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child or a member of your household develops symptoms of COVID-19, you must not come to school and you should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test-or-by-calling-119>.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day isolation period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If the person in your household showing symptoms receives a negative test result, **and has had no contact with a known positive case**, then usual activities can be resumed from the receipt of the negative test result.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19:

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Harvest Again, huge thanks for all the generous donations. Do keep sending these in so we have a tremendous collection for the food bank.

Sport

As part of the 'This Girl Can' programme, year six girls appeared to thoroughly enjoy the Soccerfest this week. The next one is the year 3 Hockeyfest. Over the term all the children will have experienced a sporting festival.

Bikeability

Next week the team will be working on different days through the week with groups from year 4 and year 6. If your child is informed that their day is Tuesday, please send them into school in UNIFORM (for school photograph) and bring a change of clothes if they would like to for Bikeability. We'll endeavour to have their pictures taken first subject to any hygiene / bubble restrictions.

Year 3 children have been reminded to come to school in UNIFORM on Tuesday too please.

WHAT? A FOOD COLLECTION AS PART OF OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL. ALL FOOD ITEMS WILL BE COLLECTED BY CHESTERFIELD FOOD BANK.

WHAT CAN MY CHILD BRING IN?

- ✓ LONG-LIFE JUICE AND MILK
- ✓ TINNED MEAT AND FISH
- ✓ TINNED FRUIT AND VEGETABLES
- ✓ BISCUITS
- ✓ TINNED RICE PUDDING
- ✓ ANY OTHER FOOD ITEMS THAT ARE IN DATE AND HAVE A LONG BEST BEFORE DATE.

Telephone Consultations week beginning 12th October

Teachers will aim to phone you during the slot you requested. Please don't worry if you have forgotten which slot you did request. Just remember to accept a call that is not a recognised number.

Pupil Details Forms

Please accept our sincere apologies that these were taken home without their envelopes. A job was interrupted and we're sorry that this was realised too late. I reported this to our external data protection officer immediately and it has been recorded on our data breach log.

Individual Photographs

These are due to take place on Tuesday 13th October.

Seesaw

I hope you are making a little time to become familiar with Seesaw, our online learning platform. Teachers are working through training webinars that then result in new functions. Most classes now have the template which teachers are making to provide clarity about jobs for the children to complete.



By doing these for homework children can become familiar so in the event they are working at home we can get started straight away.

Working on paper is great too. Children can complete a job on paper then take a photo and upload it to their Seesaw.

Our Home Learning Guide (in the event a bubble or the school is working remotely) is on our website (version 1). Having access to an electronic device larger than a phone is vital to this being successful.

We are working behind the scenes on this and have a loan agreement that governors are scrutinising so we can loan limited numbers of equipment where needed. It would be massively helpful if, during the teacher phone calls next week, you could **let your child's class teacher know if your child does not have a suitable device** to access our Teachermeets and Seesaw should we be working from home. Thank you if you already have. Please do update them next week too.

Thank you all so much for the kindness and support you have shown us. Thank you for leaving the site promptly and using the time in the morning to stagger drop offs. Once again, do feel welcome to wear a face covering on site and wait in a socially distanced space to protect yourselves and others. Everyone is trying their very best and please know that the safety and well-being of your children and the staff is always my priority.



Best wishes, *Catherine Holmes*