

## Brockwell Junior School

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Headteacher: Miss Catherine Holmes  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Emma Crutchley

1<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear Parent,

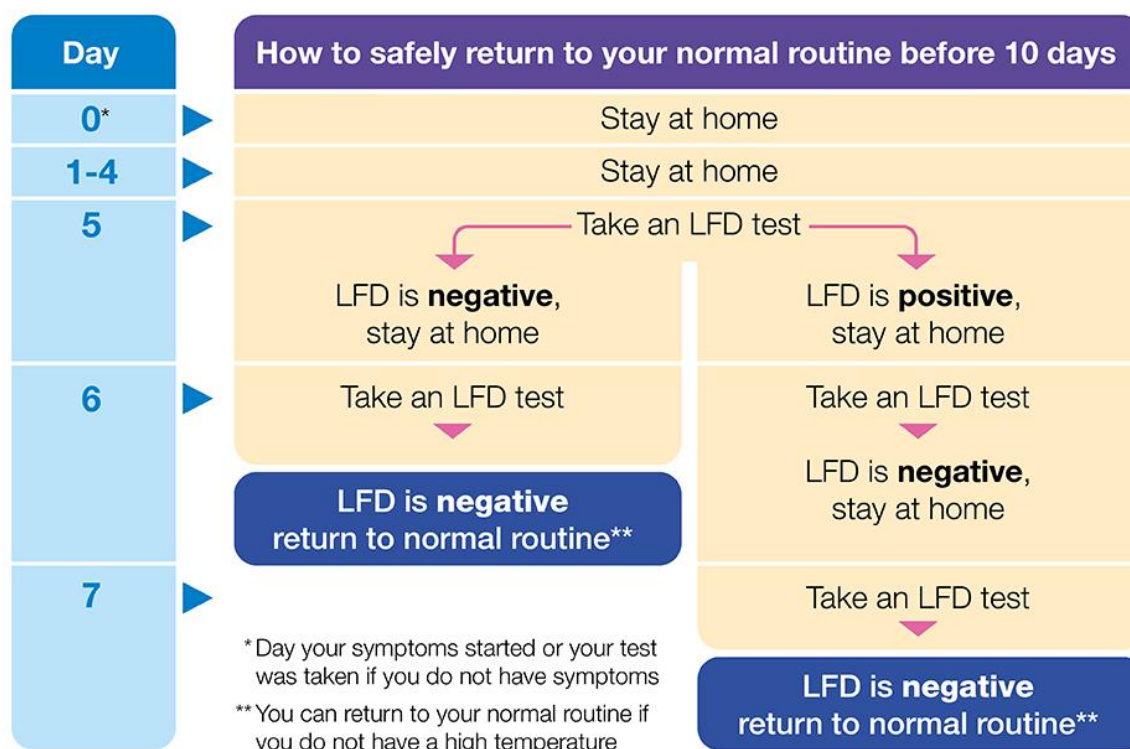
Welcome back to school. I hope you had an enjoyable break. The week has already got off to a fantastic start with new learning challenges and visits planned. Young Shakespeare on Monday was absolutely fantastic.

We hope that we will continue to see a decline in the community transmission rates of Covid-19 and that cases in school continue to remain low. On Monday 21 February, the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's COVID-19 response to the pandemic which is 'Living with Covid'. The guidance we have received informs us to continue with control measures that limit the spread including: ensuring good hygiene for everyone, maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes, keeping occupied spaces well ventilated and following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19. This means pupils, staff and other adults should follow guidance on People with COVID-19 – by following the link –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

If children or staff test positive to Covid-19 they are still required to stay off school as shown below -

If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results.



We hope that as we move towards 'living with covid' it will be the start of a new phase. We have been constantly evaluating the changes in school we believe have benefitted children and so would like to maintain. Aspects such as increased supervision and year group structures at playtime, the dining procedures, catch-up intervention groups during the morning, entrance doors and some use of virtual technology for some assemblies and performances. Our teaching assistants have taken on a range of roles during the year group structures and have all been absolutely brilliant. I will be consulting with staff with the aim of continuing their nurture, supervisory and learning support roles as we adjust our timetable for the return of face to face assemblies and breaks when all year groups access outside space at the same time. I balance this with maintaining systems that may easily be returned to in the event of any outbreak.

**School attendance** is vital not only for the children's academic attainment but also to support their mental health and wellbeing. Every day at school counts. We are trying hard to keep our attendance rates as high as possible. All guidance states that '*school attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age, and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school*'. We know that children MUST stay at home if they are ill, and we do appreciate that it has been particularly challenging over recent times and continues to be so for many people.

Other than sickness, leave from school can only be authorised if there are 'exceptional circumstances' and all applications are considered individually. If you are making an appointment for your child that could wait for the school holidays, please try to make appointments that don't intrude on school time. Please can I also ask that if your child is not attending school that you ring us and let us know why on the first day of absence. If your child is not in school we need to know where they are and that they are safe. If your child's attendance falls below 90% they are 'persistently absent' and we must work together to improve this situation as best we can for your child.

**Just to remind you** – children need to bring their book bag, water bottle and a coat every day. Please remember to only send water in water bottles. As we approach the spring / summer, please also ensure children remain in black school shoes as part of their uniform (or trainers on PE days). Forest school - including accessing areas of Holmebrook Valley Park - has now resumed again in Y4 (separate letter to Y4). It is essential that children have spare clothes/shoes to change into, a waterproof coat and bottoms, wellingtons etc. no matter the weather.

Looking forward to this coming term we have some dates for your diaries attached to the end of this letter. Thank you again for your continued support.

Best wishes,

*Catherine Holmes*

### **Dates for the coming term**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Y6 Young Shakespeare

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – World Book Day. If they choose, children may come dressed as a book character. See previous letter for all the details.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March *Wear What You Want* and bring in a donation for our Easter Fun

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – SHAPE event all year groups and FOOD EXPLORER DAY (all year groups).

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Y4 to Kelham Island

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March – start of Bikeability. Please dismount when arriving on site and leave bikes on the perimeter of the playground by Y3. Separate letters have been issued.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Y3 to Creswell Crags

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March Red Nose Day - come dressed as you choose and make a donation.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Space Invasion Event Year 5

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 'Great School Clean Up' event (all)

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March – In person Parent Consultations during the week

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Year 5 assembly (Parents of 5 Mandela at 9.10am using hall door and parents of 5 Shakespeare at 11am using the main entrance door).

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Y5 Mandela Towers Trip

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Y5 Shakespeare Towers Trip

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Orienteering Egg Hunt (all) & PFA Easter Fun

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April – 3.25pm - School Closes for the Easter Holidays

Reopens to children Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### **After School Clubs**

Basketball by Premier Monday / Wednesday – now full

Jumping Clay – Tuesdays via their website.

After school club – daily to 5.30pm – contact the office for more information.

**INSET DAYS** May 27<sup>th</sup> 2022, June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**PLEASE NOTE ENTRANCE DOORS WILL BE OPENING AT 8.45am from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
Children are expected to be in class ready to register by 8.55am. Children arriving  
after 9am are recorded as late.**