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Spring Newsletter No. 5

23rd March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome the sunshine once again, it certainly seems to lift the spirits! It has also been wonderful to see and hear from so many children taking part in our **March Reading Challenge**. The children have enjoyed telling us about their reading exploits and most importantly, we can feel a real buzz around reading and books in school. Thank you for your support at home with this initiative. Please return your Reading Challenge sheets on **Thursday 31st March**, so that your child can be entered into the prize draw on Friday.

Regrettably, you will have seen, by the number of notifications I have been sending to you all, that COVID-19 cases and now chicken pox are continuing to impact both children and staff. As a number of parents have asked us for guidance, I have outlined below, the current advice from government, regarding self-isolation and treatment of chicken pox. If you are unsure what you and your family should do, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

At the time of writing this letter, we are able to operate safely, but as I hope you can appreciate, this is an ever-evolving situation. My staff team have and continue to work tirelessly to ensure the children are impacted as little as possible and staff absence has been covered, for example, by redeploying staff from across the school and teaching across different year groups. We have managed this, with hopefully, minimal impact on our children this term but, if I have insufficient staff to keep everyone safe I have to make the difficult decision to move to remote learning. This move will always be a last resort, having explored and exhausted absolutely all alternative options. Whilst I truly appreciate the impact this has on families, it would be remiss of me, to not inform you that this, regrettably, may be a possibility. Therefore, should staffing levels worsen over the coming days, and classes have to move to remote learning, I will inform parents and carers via Parentmail, as quickly as I am able.

I sincerely hope I do not have to make those decisions, over the coming days and wish everyone a safe and relaxing Easter break.

Kind regards
Miss K Aldred

COVID Self Isolation

There is currently no legal requirement to self-isolate, should a person test positive for COVID-19. The government have replaced the legal duty with *advice*. In order to protect our school community, we ask respectfully, that you follow that advice.

Currently, the advice is to self-isolate, for 5 full days, following the positive test result or onset of symptoms and then test twice, 24hrs apart. If both tests are negative and there is no high temperature a child can return to school. For example, if you test positive on Wednesday, Thursday would be day 1 and then day 5 would be Monday. You test, using a LFD on Monday and Tuesday, 24hrs apart and if both tests are negative you may return to school on Tuesday.

Full guidance can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Key Dates

01/04	Last day of school (normal pick up times)
19/04	Inset Day
20/04	School reopens (normal drop off times)
02/05	Bank Holiday Monday (School closed)
26/05	Year R School Trip (further info to follow)
27/05	Last day of school (normal pick up times)
06/06	Inset Day
07/06	School reopens (normal drop off times)
21/06	Year 2 School trip (further info to follow)
30/06	Year 1 School Trip (further info to follow)

Full term dates can be found [here](#)

Chicken Pox

As a school, we follow the NHS guidance regarding chicken pox, which requires all spots to have formed a scab, before returning to school, which typically can take around 5 days. We ask all parents and carers to have regard to this advice, not only to allow the affected child time to fully recuperate but also to mitigate the risk of chicken pox spreading further.

The NHS guidance can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

FOBSA Update

The children will be shopping for a special Mothering Sunday gift on Thursday. Thank you very much for your donations. If you haven't yet sent in £1, it's not too late!