

21st January 2022

Good Evening

Newsletter 18

Is it me or is January going on forever – still a few signs of spring are popping up and we are seeing a bit of sunshine now.

Today we have 2 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the staff (including one in the After School Club) and 4 cases in children. The guidance changed again this week – plan B is no longer in place and we have been told Covid-19 is now a virus we have to live with and that the priority to reduce the disruption to education continues. From 27th January staff will no longer need to wear masks in communal areas in school. We still have contingency plans in place in case positive cases increase substantially and we are directed to step up our plans by UKHSA. But the control measures for school remain the same.

1. **Ensure good hygiene for everyone**, so we are still asking children to wash their hands frequently and encouraging good respiratory hygiene and the use of PPE if necessary.
2. **Maintain cleaning regimes**, so cleaners will maintain the cleaning schedules and all classes have additional cleaning materials to clean frequently touched areas when necessary.
3. **Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**, so we have to balance good ventilation while ensuring a comfortable teaching environment is maintained. Co2 monitors are all classrooms to identify where additional ventilation is needed.
4. **Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19**, no one must come into school if they have symptoms. Staff should continue LFD testing twice weekly. (It is essential that test results are reported through the Covid-19 Test Results page and to school) There is no need for primary aged children to test regularly unless they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive and advised to take LFD tests for 7 days.

We are still getting our heads around new guidance so please do not hesitate to ask for advice about what you should do but be patient with us if we have to check the DFE paperwork to make sure we get it right!

Staff cover remains a constant issue at the moment and every day we are having to juggle arrangements to ensure classes are covered. Covid-19, child care for isolating children and the usual winter absences are really biting at the moment, there are six staff out today and that makes everything really tight if there is a different adult in your child's class please be bear with us, hopefully the situation will ease very soon.

There has been some great learning going on in classes this week. YR have been practising for their assembly and many of them have been making dinosaur eggs for homework. Y1/2 have been learning more exciting facts about the planets. Y3/4 have been doing clever science experiments about velocity. Y5 have been learning about Frida Kahlo. Y6 have been converting fractions into decimals. The Planetarium visited

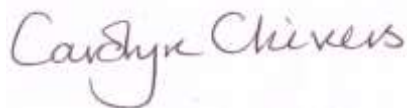
school for Y1/2 and Y5. It was a very special day where children had great fun whilst learning lots about the solar system.

Don't forget that we have been informed by Southern Water that from 12th February for 10 working days there will be no parking in Cinque Ports Avenue because they will be repairing a sewer. This work will begin during the holidays but may well spill over into term 4. When we get more details we will share them with you but those who usually park in Cinque Ports Avenue will probably have to make alternative arrangements. Remember the car park on the other side of the Green is free at drop off and pick up times.

The school football team played their first match in nearly two years, it was a "warm up" match with Hythe Town Youth, the team played extremely well but were defeated 3-1. So we will persevere – keep practising and I am sure be successful in our next match.

If anyone would like any bookcases we have several available for a very small donation. There are photographs on the school Facebook page if you want to check them out. They were in the Learning Zone but we don't have room for them now we have the new Library furniture and they would be a great addition to any child's bedroom or additional storage. If you are interested call or chat with Sam or Jo at Reception.

Have a great weekend and keep safe



Carolyn Chivers
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary	
28 th January	Mr Donald's class Worship
4 th February	Miss Cobb's class Worship
11 th February	Last day of term 3
21 st February	First day of term 4
25 th February	Miss Flaxton's class Worship
4 th March	Mrs Wiles' class Worship
7 th and 8 th March	Parents Evenings
11 th March	Mr Gollop's class Worship
18 th March	Mrs Witham's class Worship
25 th March	Miss West's class Worship
Week beginning 28 th March	Y6 Residential
1 st April	Last day of term 4
19 th April	First day of term 5
25 th April	New date – Young Voices Concert at the 02
2 nd May	Bank Holiday – no school
May	Y2 taking KS1 SATs (National Testing)
Week beginning 9 th May	Y6 taking KS2 SATS (National Testing)
25 th May	Hythe Bay's Got Talent
27 th May	End of Term 5
6 th June	Start of term 6
Week beginning 6 th June	Phonics check Y1 and Y2 (National Testing)
From 6 th June	Multiplication Check Y4 (National Testing)
19 th July	Last day of school year – Change of date additional day holiday given to schools for Queen's Platinum Jubilee