

3rd December 2021

Good Afternoon

The new Covid-19 restrictions have rather taken over life at Hythe Bay this week. The arrival of the initial guidance on Sunday evening was troubling but the updated guidance on Monday is less concerning. Staff, parents and visitors are all wearing face masks in communal areas of the school. Provided we do not exceed 5 cases of Covid-19 in a class over a period of 10 days we can all continue working as normal. If we get more than 5 cases we have to ring UKHSA (the new name for Public Health England) and they will advise us what to do – advice other schools have received has included more ventilation, PCR tests for classes, bubbling the class so they do not come into contact with others. Our Outbreak Management Contingency Plan is prepared and ready to utilise if necessary.

There have been four confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the school this week with no more than two cases in one class. We continue to take all recommended precautions to stop the spread of the disease and to keep the school open. Please, if your child has any of the recognised symptoms – a high temperature, a new continuous cough and loss of the sense of taste and smell - get a PCR test. If it is negative they can return to school as soon as they are well enough. Confirmed cases still need to isolate for the full ten days. Brothers and sisters can still come to school as usual. Please do all you can to ensure everyone is kept as safe as possible when delivering and collecting children from school. If a PCR positive test confirms evidence of the Omicron variant, close contacts will be contacted and will need to isolate for 10 days.

So at the moment all our Christmas plans will continue..... but watch this space, just in case.....

Next week's Reception, Year One and Year Two plays will take place as planned. This year each class will be performing a short Christmas play. There will be an afternoon and an evening performance for each class. On the evening performance days please bring your children back to school for 6 o'clock so they have plenty of time to change into their costumes and get ready for the 6.30pm performance. There will be plenty of room in the hall so come to as many performances as you like and you are welcome to bring friends and family. You will find that the audience will be more spread out than usual; we ask that you wear a face mask, unless you are exempt; we suggest you take a LFT test before you come into the hall and wear warm clothing because the door and window in the hall will be open – we will be serving mulled wine and hot chocolate to keep you warm before the evening performances. We will record the performances and put them on the You Tube Channel if you are uncomfortable about watching the children live and would prefer to watch them online.

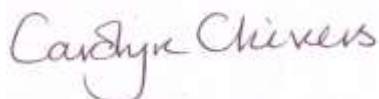
The Christmas trees have arrived and the main areas of the school are prepared ready for the festive season. The Children's Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 10th December at 3.15pm, because of the pandemic we are going to arrange it a little differently this year. Every class will have a stall as usual but they will be outside the

classroom doors. So think of it more as a Christmas Market, we can wander around the stalls at our leisure rather than all crowd into the hall.

The 10th December will also be a Tag Day – no need for children to wear school uniform if they bring in a little something for the Christmas Hamper Raffle – maybe a box of Christmas biscuits, a bottle of bubble bath or anything you think would go well in a Christmas Hamper.

We still need some helpers please - if you are a police checked volunteer for the school, we would really appreciate your help on 7th December. Y6 are taking part in an Advent Church Day that is organised by the Church, it's a really great day full of exciting Christmas activities but they need more adult helpers. If you can spare a few hours talk to the girls in the office and we can put you in contact with the organisers.

Have a great weekend and keep safe



Carolyn Chivers
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary	
6 th December	Starfish Christmas Performance 1.30pm Turtles Christmas Performance 6.30pm
7 th December	Y6 Church Advent day Seahorses Christmas Performance 1.30pm Starfish Christmas Performance 6.30pm
8 th December	Parrotfish Christmas Performance 1.30pm Seahorses Christmas Performance 6.30pm
9 th December	Turtles Christmas Performance 1.30pm Parrotfish Christmas Performance 6.30pm
10 th December	Tag Day – bring a contribution for the Christmas Hamper Raffle and children need not wear school uniform for the day
10 th December 3.15pm	Christmas Fair
13 th December 6.30pm	KS2 Carol Service – St Leonard’s Church
15 th December 9.30am	Y5 performance of A Christmas Carol
15 th December	Christmas Lunch
17 th December	End of term 2
4 th January	First day of term 3
11 th January	Mrs Head’s Class Worship
18 th January	Mrs Short / Mrs Apps’ Class Worship change
11 th February	Last day of term 3
21 st February	First day of term 4
Week beginning 28 th March	Y6 Residential
1 st April	Last day of term 4
19 th April	First day of term 5
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)
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.