



Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Jo Hodge
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11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of our first full week back! All the teachers report that the children are settling well and adjusting to the routines and classroom set-ups. It is lovely to have the school full of children again and a sense of normality returning – long may it continue!

Thank you for all your support with the protective measures we have put in place at the beginning and end of each day. We have tweaked a few things as the week has progressed and hopefully these changes are making the process a little quicker whilst ensuring social distancing. Please remember to only arrive at the classroom door at you allocated time and wait on in the car park if you are early or doing multiple drop-offs. If your child is in Y1 - 4, please do not feel you have to wait in a queue– as long as the class teacher is present, you can leave your child in the queue and you are free to go!

We are unable to offer our usual face-to-face parent information sessions for each class so teachers have put together a hand-out which will provide you with some information about their new class and this term's learning. These will come out via ParentPay at the beginning of next week.

At this time of year children are beginning to suffer from the usual winter colds and bugs. I know how difficult it is for parents to know when/if to send children into school. Typical symptoms of a cold, such as a runny nose or sneezing are not considered symptoms of coronavirus, and as such, children do not need to be kept off school if they are feeling well within themselves.

A reminder that the main symptoms recognised by the government for Covid19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough –this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste– this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you are uncertain that your child is showing symptoms of coronavirus, you are able to book a test by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> If we feel that children are showing symptoms at school, we will contact you and ask that they are collected and booked in for a test. If a child's test is positive, we ask that parents in for must immediately and we will then seek advice from the local Health Protection Teams. Parents need to be aware that we will follow all guidance given by the South West Health Protection Team and this may mean that children in that class/bubble are asked to be collected from school and taken home to self-isolate for 14 days.

As the term progresses, more children may present with symptoms. As routine testing is now available through a range of routes and more children will be tested, please be aware that we will not inform other parents within the class if a child is being tested. If a family member tests positive but the child tests negative, we will respect the medical privacy of the family member and not inform the year group bubble.



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The family will then follow the self- isolation guidance. We will only inform other parents if a child or member or staff within that year group bubble tests positive and we will then immediately update parents from that year group with advice from the South West Health Protection Team.

Have a lovely weekend and we'll see you on Monday,

Jo Hodge

Acting Head