

Whitby Heath Primary School Newsletter

25th March 2022



'Excellence in a Caring Community'

Busy Learning - Indoors and Outdoors!

This week, we have been celebrating World Maths Day across the school. The children have taken part in various Maths activities ranging from Times Table Rockstars challenges, Mathletics battles against children from all over the world and also taking part in a range of fun and exciting problem solving activities. Well done to all the children for a great week #WorldMathsDay!

Year 3 are looking forward to taking part in their rescheduled Forest School learning today with Mr Hadfield. They will be taking their current learning of Ancient Egypt and light and shadow, outside for some exciting, practical activities. There will also be opportunities for exploring some new learning for next half term's topics. I am looking forward to hearing all about it!

Key Stage 1 had a wonderful assembly on Monday led by 'Scientific Sarah' from Mad Science. The children went on a 'Mission to Mars' where they explored and discussed gravity and how a force is needed to push a rocket upwards to space. They also experimented using different shapes of rockets and an air force to see which was the most successful in flight. The most successful rocket which travelled the furthest was one that was aerodynamic which Oliver in Ash class could tell us all about! Lots of fun was had by all!

Our Shining Stars this week are:

Oak Class - Isla R
Elm Class - Jayden D-S
Ash Class - Kurtis C
Beech Class - Evelyn T
Fir Class - Mollie C
Cherry Class - Nuna S
Poplar Class - Kiyana L
Rowan Class - Ethan L
Cedar Class - Bailey M
Holly Class - Alexander G
Sycamore Class - Ava L
Willow Class - Jessica W
Birch Class - Lewis M
Maple Class - Aimee O
Congratulations to you all!



Team Reward

We have counted up the final tallies for our Team Points this term and I am pleased to announce that Seuss team have managed to win overall for Spring Term. They will have their reward on next Tuesday. Please look out for a letter about this which has been sent out today for all children in this team.



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World Downs Day Fundraiser - thank you

Thank you to all of the families who contributed to our recent fundraiser for Downs Syndrome UK led by one of our Year 6 pupils and our School Ambassadors. This event raised £226.82 for this charity. Thank you for your support with this.

Summer Term Clubs

We have sent out information about the clubs on offer for next term this week - please note, school led clubs forms need to be returned to school by next Monday, 28th March.

Science Photograph Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in this competition, your photographs on the theme of 'Growth' linking to our Science week in school last week were wonderful!

A special congratulations to the two prize winners who were awarded their prizes in Celebration Assembly today:

Marlie C (Y4) won an electricity/magnetism kit to enable her to do lots of investing at home. She created a very inventive pic collage showing the stages of growth of a balloon as it is blown up and what happens to a drawing of a face when it expands

Joseph S (Y1) won a telescope after he photographed the growth of his toy dinosaurs from smallest to largest and sent a voice note via Seesaw explaining how he decided to order them.

FOWH

Congratulations to all of the children who took part in the Friends of Whitby Heath Challenge 2022 fundraiser recently. We were wowed by the range of challenges you all took part in!

Everyone who took part has been presented with a certificate in our Celebration Assembly today.

The joint winners who raised the most money with their joint challenge were Frankee and Lois S who between them read 22 books in 5 days and walked 22,000 steps in one day - amazing! They received a book token to share as their joint prize.

Congratulations to Cedar class who raised the most money from their challenges overall - this class has been awarded with a book token for their class to use on books for them to enjoy together.

Thank you to everyone for taking part and supporting this fundraising event.

Parent Forum

Our Parent Forum frequently asked questions video for all parents and carers is now available to view via our website at: <http://www.whitbyheath.cheshire.sch.uk/page/parent-forum/58168>

One of the updates we have included in this video is regarding drop off and collection timings from after the Easter holidays. I have outlined the key points regarding this in the summary below:

As we all get used to the adjustment of 'living with COVID19' we are keen to adjust some of the arrangements in school to reflect this new way of life whilst maintaining the capacity to quickly and effectively implement our Outbreak Management Plan as and when required.

As part of this review, we plan to change arrangements for drop off and pick up times for all

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classes from summer term onwards so that parents/carers and children do not have to wait for staggered drop off/collection times where they have more than one child in school.

Therefore, from after the Easter holidays, drop off for all classes will be between 8.45am and 9am and collection time will be from 3pm for all classes.

Drop off and collection will remain in the same locations for all classes i.e. EYFS via their class gates for Oak and Elm classes, Year 1 classes via the car park entrance from Clydesdale and Year 2 to Year 6 classes inclusive, via the main playground.

Where parents and carers are collecting children from more than one gate, we ask that parents/carers collect their youngest child/ren first before collecting from older classes, class teachers will remain with children until they are collected.

In the interests of safety and to ensure staff can safely dismiss all children, we ask that parents and carers maintain their distance from class lines for dismissal and wait for their child to be handed over from their class teacher as we currently do.

Our staff team will supervise their classes from 8.45am at drop off, once your child joins their class line. We ask that parents/carers only approach staff at these times if there is an urgent message to pass on. In all other cases, please continue to contact class teachers via class emails or via the school office and staff will contact parents back directly. We will continue to have myself, Mrs Williams, Learning Mentors and other members of the staff team on duty at both drop off and collection times so we are available for parents/carers to speak to at these times. Please note, children are not to access the field or play equipment at any time before or after school, thank you for your support with this.

Finally

The ongoing war and crisis in Ukraine is a painful and upsetting reminder that our children continue to need to be supported to make sense of the world around them in a supportive and beneficial manner. With this in mind, we will be working with all classes on a special project next week to enable each child to create a notebook cover design as a gift for child refugees entering our country.

These special notebooks will then be passed on to a charity working with refugee families to share a heartfelt welcome to the children of these families from our pupils; as a personal welcome from child to child. We are sure this special project will be really valuable for both our children in school and the children who go on to receive these notebooks.

R. Jewitt



'Moving Forward Together With Hope'

As we adjust to the new phase of 'living with' the COVID-19 virus, and our priority is to support the delivery of resilient face-to-face teaching.

As teachers and parents we should still be alert to the three core COVID-19 symptoms so we can make the best choices for our schools and families.

COVID-19 symptoms and what to do if your child has them

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are the recent onset of:

- ✓ a new continuous cough and/or
- ✓ high temperature and/or
- ✓ a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

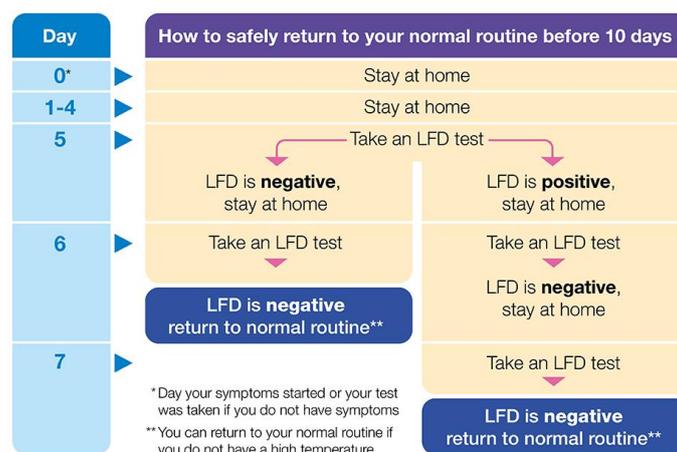
If your child develops any of these symptoms, then arrangements should be made for them to take a **PCR test as soon as possible**. Your child should stay at home and avoid contact with others while awaiting the PCR test result. Please note that we are also advising schools to send home students if they believe they have one or more symptoms requiring a PCR test.

Testing for pupils with symptoms can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website:

www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. Please keep your child's school informed of the results of any tests.

So long as their PCR test result is negative, your child/children can continue to attend school as usual, if they have no symptoms.

If any test results are positive, your child/children should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. Please see the diagram below for further information on safely returning to their normal routine.



What to do if your child is generally unwell

If your child is unwell with general symptoms such as a sore throat, runny nose, and/or headache/muscles aches, they should not attend school to avoid spreading infection within the

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school. Schools will send students home if they believe they present a risk of infection to other students.

Pupils who are in the same household as a symptomatic or positive case (e.g. siblings)

If an individual in a household tests positive or has symptoms, any children and young people in that household who attend school or college should:

- Attend their education or childcare setting as normal
- Minimise contact with the person who has COVID-19 at home
- Avoid contact with anyone you know who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell if they are infected with COVID-19, especially those with a severely weakened immune system.
- Pay close attention to the main symptoms of COVID-19. If they develop any of these symptoms, seek a PCR test. They are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while waiting for the test result.

Changes in line with government 'Living with COVID-19' plan

- No-one is legally required to self-isolate if they test positive for COVID-19. They are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.
- Regular asymptomatic LFD testing is no longer recommended.
- Unvaccinated individuals are not legally required to self-isolate following contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Individuals can still take an LFD test from day 5 after symptoms started (or the day you had the test if you do not have symptoms) and 24 hours after that. If these tests are both negative, individuals can return to their normal routine before 10 days.
- Contact tracing conducted by NHS Test and Trace has been discontinued.

Current DfE Guidance regarding COVID19 vaccinations for 5-11 year olds

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).

Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). Further information is available in the guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years published by UKHSA, which can be found by visiting:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-resources-for-children-aged-5-to-11-years/a-guide-for-parents-of-children-aged-5-to-11-years-of-age-at-high-risk?utm_source=8%20March%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

The DfE have also published some frequently asked questions on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. This information can be found at:

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https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/11/vaccinations-for-clinically-vulnerable-children-and-young-people-your-questions-answered/?utm_source=8%20March%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Following advice from the JCVI, healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.

It is really important you let us know if your child has COVID-19 so we can monitor the number of children with COVID-19 across the school.

Please keep us informed by emailing help@whitbyheath.cheshire.sch.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support.