

AVJS Bulletin: 10th December 2021

It was great seeing so many of you at the Christmas sing along and then the market last Friday. We hope you enjoyed it and the weather was kind to us! If you are a raffle winner and you are yet to collect your prize, please contact the school office. The children will all be having a Christmas party / celebration next week, you will have been notified on ClassDojo as to when this is happening. Your child may bring in some party clothes to change into if they want to.

If you saw the Prime Minister's briefing on Wednesday night, you will know that cases of Covid 19 are increasing across the country. In fact, last month, inews.co.uk reported that England Covid cases "are now highest in schoolchildren aged 5 to 9". As many of you will know, we have also seen an increase in cases in school. Fortunately, parents are reporting that the children who have been infected do not become particularly poorly. We have a comprehensive 37 page risk assessment that is reviewed at least monthly and although up to now, the message from the government has been to go back to normal, you will see that we have many measures in place to keep the risk as low as we can. Although we are not technically operating bubbles, our classes do not mix indoors except at lunchtime when children within year groups sit together in the hall. Our Christmas parties next week will be outside where possible in year groups and if they have to be held indoors, they will be in classes. I know that some of you are concerned as to how we are managing the situation and I urge you to read the risk assessment which is on our website and can be accessed by following the link below.

<https://www.arnovale.co.uk/coronavirus/> We also have a lot of cases of common colds and other illnesses in school which can exhibit symptoms similar to Covid. It is very difficult for staff to spot the non-obvious symptoms as we are still told to look for a persistent cough,

high temperature or a loss of taste or smell. If we think that the symptoms are not related to Covid 19, we do try to encourage the children to get through the day if they can before we phone you. Please remember, you know your children best and if you think that they may have a symptom of Covid 19, you should arrange for a PCR test and keep them off school until you know the result of the test. If you think your child is a close contact of someone who has tested positive, you should also book a PCR test. In this case, your child does not have to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result unless you are told otherwise. You can book a PCR test by telephoning 119 or through the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Please note close contacts in schools are now identified by NHS Test and Trace and education settings are no longer expected to undertake contact tracing.

Unfortunately, because we have catering staff who are self-isolating, we will not be able to offer any school meals before the end of term, so please continue to send your child with a packed lunch next week. We will still be able to provide a packed lunch for your child if they are in receipt of free school meals only. Thank you for your understanding.

We had a call from a member of the public to say that they witnessed a near collision on Saville Road last week. This was due to cars blocking the road. Please make sure that if you do park on Saville Road at drop off and pick up time that you do so responsibly, thank you.

