

Friday 12 November 2021

## Update Letter



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am pleased to report that there has been only one pupil Covid case and no staff cases since we returned after the holidays.

Staff have been taking tests daily and will continue to do so until Sunday, they will then return to twice weekly from Monday 15 November, testing on a Sunday and Wednesday each week.

It is so important that as many of our secondary age pupils continue with twice weekly testing, this is key to identifying symptom free cases and preventing outbreaks across school.

On Wednesday the Covid 19 Vaccination team visited school and 35 of our secondary age pupils had their vaccination I was so incredibly proud of the pupils, who despite finding those types of situations a challenge, rose to the challenge and were so brave and courageous. The vast majority of the staff received their booster vaccination, with the remaining staff having already had it or booked to have it off-site

In my letter last week, I asked if you could ensure that if your child is presenting with any illness, such as a cough, cold or feeling generally unwell that they remain at home until they are symptom free or feeling better.

I am so pleased and grateful that you have supported my request and been so understanding and accommodating, especially following any sickness or diarrhoea, and ensuring they don't return until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.

As cases have remained so low, we will restart the before and after school club next week.

### Current Covid Measures

- All staff and secondary age pupils to continue wearing face-coverings when arriving, leaving, and moving around the school site.
- All staff engage in daily testing until 15/11/2021 then return to twice weekly testing until the end of the autumn term in December.
- All staff who are identified as a close contact will seek a PCR and engage in daily testing for 10 days
- All secondary age pupils to continue with twice weekly testing until the end of the autumn term in December.
- All pupils who are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case are strongly encouraged to seek a PCR.



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- All staff who are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case are strongly encouraged to seek a PCR and engage in 10-day LFD testing.
- All visitors to the school will be required to show evidence of a negative LFD test prior to arrival onsite and wear a face-covering throughout the duration of their visit.
- Assemblies will remain virtual.
- Lunches and breaktimes to continue in class bubbles.
- Educational Visits to outdoor venues re-started on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.
- Educational Visits (except swimming) to indoor venues have been paused until Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November – decision made about the re-introduction Monday 15 November

We have had a busy week couple of weeks, celebrating Diwali the Hindu Festival of light last Thursday, enjoying taking part in Children in Need on Wednesday this week raising an amazing £100 and taking time yesterday to remember our armed forces and their service now and in the past.

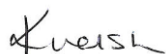
Today is one of three non-uniform days over the next few weeks to support our Christmas Bingo event, your kind and generous donations of all things chocolate today have been truly amazing and much appreciated.

Christmas Bingo will be taking place on Thursday 2 December 6-8pm, virtually, more information about taking part and buying tickets will be coming out next week.

We have another busy week next week as we take part in the National Anti-Bullying Week, or Friendship Week as we call it at Astley Park. Pupils and staff are invited to wear odd socks on Monday to mark the start of a week of fun activities to raise awareness of bullying and the impact it can have. The theme this year is “one kind word” which fits in well with our school value of kindness. Here is a link if you’d like to find out more. <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week>

Keep a look out on Facebook and Twitter for class blogs and Evidence for Learning (EFL) to see what everyone is getting up to!

Keep Safe 



Kieran Welsh  
Headteacher

