

Friday 17 December 2021

## Update Letter



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

I am pleased to report the number of Covid cases has remained low this week, with only one confirmed pupil case. Thankfully there have been no class closures this 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 twice weekly testing for the foreseeable future.
- All staff who are identified as a close contact will seek a PCR and engage in daily testing for 7 days.
- All secondary age pupils to continue with twice weekly testing for the foreseeable future.
- All pupils who are identified as a close contact of a confirmed case are strongly encouraged to seek a PCR and engage in daily testing for 7 days.
- 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.

Please continue testing twice weekly throughout the holidays. If your son/daughter does test positive please let us know using this form [Report a Positive Pupil Case](#). The form should provide us with all the information we need, if we need further details we will be in touch.

All secondary age pupils will be tested onsite on their return to school. We will be testing all secondary aged pupils (who have consented) on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. If you haven't previously consented and wish your child to take part in our return to school testing programme or if you have previously consented and wish to withdraw consent, please contact a member of the business support team via phone or email [bst@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bst@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk). Please ensure you have a contingency plan in place if you are needed to collect your son or daughter should they have a positive test.

What a fantastic last week we have had, it's been action packed and full of fun and festive cheer.

On Wednesday, Santa joined us live from the North Pole, he sent his elves with a present for each pupil, everyone enjoyed having breakfast together in class and spending the day in their PJs.



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On Thursday we had a visit from Judy and four of her wonderful alpacas, Bobbykins, Bella, Sir Lancelot, and Rupert. They were a hit with the pupils and staff who thoroughly enjoyed meeting them. Please look out for the blog for lots of photos from the visit.

Our school values art display has arrived and now has pride of place in our main school corridor, we are thrilled with the finished piece. The pupils are enjoying trying to find their individual pieces.



This morning the school councillors and I walked to Westwood residential care home to deliver the Christmas cards each class had made for the residents. The residents were in the conservatory, they were so pleased to see us and were able to wave through the window. We sang Jingle Bells, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas before passing the cards over. It was lovely to see the smiles on the residents faces and them joining in with us singing.



The Christmas production has now gone live on our Learning from Home YouTube Channel, <https://youtu.be/07Yf74R3CRo> I am sure you will have as much fun watching it as they did making it. The pupils and staff have worked so hard on it. I am sure it will give you all a smile and raise your spirits.


Mrs Mahood contacted a local charity Stable Lives and they have kindly offered us 12 free tickets for pupils to take part in a live nativity with a visit to Santa. The pupils were selected at random and will be visiting on Sunday 19 December. Please look out for the blog and find out what they got up to. A huge thank you to the staff who have kindly volunteered to support the pupils. <https://stable-lives.co.uk/>

I hope you are all able to enjoy spending time with family & friends, but please continue to follow government guidelines throughout the festive period, those that are eligible please ensure you are fully vaccinated and boosted. Let's keep everyone as safe and happy as possible, so we can start the new year fit and well.





Wishing you and your families all the very best for the festive season,

Take care & keep safe 

*K Welsh*

Kieran Welsh  
Headteacher



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