

# Boldmere Junior School

## Weekly Newsletter

16 November 2021

No 10

**Our current value is : KINDNESS**

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Please see information from the infant school in regards to covid cases. Currently in the junior school, we have 5 confirmed positive cases. We are waiting on results from a further 6 children and staff.

### **Covid Cases - Outbreak Management At Infant School**

During the course of this weekend, we have had a huge increase in the number of positive cases at school. Currently we have 10 staff members and 20 children as confirmed positive cases. We are waiting on results from a further 15 children and staff. We have also had to close our Nursery provision until Wednesday 24th November. Our Outbreak Management plan is also in effect.

Please can we ask that parents monitor their children for any covid-19 symptoms, no matter how mild you may think they are. Continue with lateral flow testing and seek a PCR test immediately if your child displays symptoms. Mask wearing is also recommended around school.

Please note that all children must be in school if they have not tested positive. Parents have a statutory duty to ensure children are at school. We completely understand that some parents may want to keep their children at home but please be reassured that medical advice states that most positive cases in children are very mild.

We are encouraging hand washing, keeping areas well ventilated, and limiting mixing within school.

Remote learning for all children with positive PCRs will be provided. We are doing our best to get these children signed up today but please bear with us, limited staffing is having an impact on how quickly we can facilitate this.

### **Diary Dates**

**2021/22**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

##### **Friday 19 November**

Children in Need Fundraising – non-uniform day with yellow/spots theme – details to follow.

##### **Friday 26 November**

PTA Christmas Fair – see PTA information

##### **Friday 10 December**

Elfridges – see PTA information

##### **Friday 17 December**

Break up for Christmas

#### **PDD = Professional Development Day**

#### **Please note the PDD for academic year 2021/22**

**Tuesday 4 January** – PDD – school closed to pupils

**Wednesday 5 January** – children return to school

**Friday 27 May** – PDD – school closed to pupils

**Thursday 21 July** – PDD – school closed to pupils

We anticipate that the situation at school may not improve in the short term, as transmission across school will probably continue. This may result in further restrictions, but at the moment, bubble closures are not being considered.

We are liaising with PHE and the DfE regarding the outbreak and will keep parents updated regularly with parentmails. The attached "Warn and Inform" letter is information provided for parents by the DfE.

Thank you for your patience.

### **Reminder Regarding COVID-19.**

If your child displays any COVID-19 symptoms, they must have a PCR test and isolate at home until the results are received.

If results are negative, your child may return to school if they are well enough to do so.

If results are positive, your child must isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or the test date.

If your child is taking a PCR test as they have been identified as a possible close contact, they can attend school as long as they have no COVID-19 symptoms.

Lateral flow testing should be used for asymptomatic testing. If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms, they must book a PCR test.

**Please ensure you let the school office know, in advance, if you book a PCR test for your child and advise the office of the result of the test before your child returns to school.**

**REMINDER: If you are communicating with the school regarding your child's absence or regarding a PCR test result, please email through to 'enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk' and NOT the year group email address. Thank you.**

### **Covid Symptoms – Flow Chart**

See attached a flow chart listing the three main covid-19 symptoms and action to be taken, which parents/guardians may find useful.

### **Google Classroom**

Google Classroom is the digital online platform for children that are self-isolating due to a positive Covid-19 test result.

When school receives notice from a parent/carer that the child has received a positive PCR test result, the child will be given access to the Google Classroom page. If the child is ill, there is no expectation for work to be completed, but if the child is well then work can be accessed, completed and sent in for the teacher to see. On the Google Classroom page, the child will find work that is in line with what is being taught in school.

### **School Photographs**

School photograph orders have arrived and will be circulated to your child tomorrow.

### **Contacting School**

Email addresses for correspondence specific to your child's class/year group, to support with teaching, learning and online/home learning support only:

[yr3-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:yr3-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

[yr4-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:yr4-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

[yr5-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:yr5-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

[yr6-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:yr6-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

[bib-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:bib-contact@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

For general enquiries or for reporting a school absence, medical appointment, end of school arrangements, please contact the school office on 0121 464 3656 or email [enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk)

## **Children in Need**

A reminder that this Friday 19th November is the BBC's Children in Need appeal. We are inviting children to come in non-uniform with a theme of yellow or spots that day. **We are asking for a donation of £1 via ParentPay – you will be able to access this by using the link below:**

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=4248>

## **Eco-Tip Tuesday**

See attached information regarding Eco-Tip Tuesday 'cycle, scoot or walk instead of driving'.

## **Empties Please**

See attached information from Mrs Churchill and the Eco Committee regarding recycling of cartridges.

## **School Meal Orders - Reminder**

Please ensure that you order your child's meal, in advance, via school grid.

## **Busy Bodies:**

### **Welcome to our new members of staff.**

We would like to say a huge welcome to Chrissie, Isabella and Chloe who joined our lovely Busy Bodies team yesterday. I am sure that all our families and children will enjoy having them within our setting. They will be a massive asset to our team, delivering play opportunities to our children and ensuring their safety and well-being at all times.

### **December/January booking form**

We have uploaded the above forms to the school website for your information, you can download and return via email or collect one from a Busy Bodies member of staff upon collection or drop off and also from Junior reception. Please be aware that there is a covering letter attached detailing when your forms and fees are due in by.

Your **December form must be returned by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November and fees must be paid by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November.**

Your **January booking form is due in by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (although this can be returned with your December form or any time prior to the 5<sup>th</sup> January if you know your requirements) fees must be paid by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January.**

### **Polite reminder-**

We are still having a few families dropping children off to Busy Bodies earlier than stated on their booking form. With this in mind and following several reminders we must now state that any children booked in for 8:00 a.m. but

## **e-safety reminder**

Ensuring that children are safe when using information technology is an essential life skill and is needed more now than ever with children having increased screen time and access to the internet.

We wanted to remind you that on the school website, under 'Safeguarding' 'E-safety' you can access useful resources and links to websites which offer age-appropriate resources and information for parents and carers. These can also be found on your child's Google Classroom in the 'Parent Information' folder.

are arriving prior to 7:55 a.m. will be charged at the earlier drop off session price.

This is not only unfair to our families who have to pay an earlier fee charge, but it also has a huge impact on our staffing levels. We must maintain the children's safety within our club and therefore need to have appropriate children to staff ratio. This will take effect from this week and any additional cost will be added to the children's ParentPay account at the end of each month and families will be informed.

## **PTA News:**

### **It's beginning to feel a bit like Christmas...**

We at the PTA appreciate that this time of year is very busy, but we're also keen to provide some fun events and activities for our children to enjoy that will also raise funds to benefit all children in our schools. The organisation and running of these events takes lots of time and effort, please see below for all the ways you can help the PTA in the coming weeks.

### **PTA Christmas Fair 2021 – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 5-7pm**

Free entry! Fun and games for all the family. Please see attached PTA Christmas document for all the details including how to book a visit to Santa's Grotto. We look forward to seeing you there and helping everyone get into the festive spirit.

### **Elfridges Gift Shop – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

Our Elfridges Christmas Shop gives the children an opportunity to choose and buy their own Christmas gifts for loved ones. Orders will need to be made in advance by midday on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December and the children will be invited into the Elfridges Shop on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please visit [www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere) to place your children's orders.

### **Request for Donations & Volunteers**

The Christmas Fair raises funds to benefit the children at both schools. We need your help please with donations for Christmas stalls and also volunteers to help at the event. Items can be donated at morning drop off daily from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Please see the attached PTA Christmas document for details on donations required and how you can help out.

### **The BIG Christmas Raffle**

Fancy winning £5,000 and helping our kids too?

Boldmere School's PTA are taking part in ParentKind's BIG PTA Raffle. Tickets cost £3 which are entered into 12 daily raffle draws from 7-18 December. Further details are available via this

link <https://www.bigptaraffle.co.uk/support/boldmere-junior-school-and-infant-school-pta-b73>

### **Christmas Cards**

The children have completed their beautiful Christmas card designs, which have now been sent off to the printing company. Their designs will be ready for you to order soon – please watch this space for details of how to order.

### **Black Friday**

Black Friday is fast approaching, with some retailers having already started their sales. Please consider signing up to Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising Boldmere PTA accounts. Both are free and easy to do, plus provide contributions to the PTA with every purchase made. Please see our Social Media for details on how to sign up.