

### **Head Teacher's Comment – from Bryony Surtees**

This week the children have been involved in anti-bullying week. The theme for Anti-bullying week is one kind word. Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week. Every Friday, we hold our celebration assembly which links to our assembly theme for the week. It was fantastic to hear so many wonderful stories from the teachers about how kind the children in our school are. Children were celebrated for looking out for all of their class mates and friends, making others smile, showing small acts of kindness, supporting others within the class and the playground and always thinking of others. Thankfully, bullying in our school is rare and the children understand the need to say kind words and to think of others but they also know that if they are hurt or upset, the adults are here to help and support them. We would like to continue the kindness ripple effect into the weekend and beyond and ask that within your families, you all do at least three kind things to help us continue the kindness chain reaction. Have a lovely weekend.

### **Latest news and information from Isle of Ely Primary School...**

#### **Staffing Updates**

Miss Georgia Russell has been appointed to replace Mr Sinfield in January. She has spent the last couple of days in school and has enjoyed getting to know the children in Caterpillar class. We look forward to welcoming her in January.

Mrs Young has joined us temporarily in the office. She is working every afternoon supporting Mrs Lock and will be with us for the rest of this term.

#### **Poppy Appeal:**

We raised £483.65 by selling poppies and other merchandise last week to support the Royal British Legion Appeal. That was more than any other school in Ely. Thank you so much for supporting the charity and a big well done to the house captains who went around the school daily to sell the merchandise.

#### **Therapy Dog:**

As a school we are always looking for ways to support the children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. Research has shown that therapy dogs can reduce children's anxieties about school and learning, support relationship building and build children's confidence. Miss Crawley's dog, Ivy has an ideal temperament to be trained as a therapy dog and to spend time in our school with the children. Therefore, on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, an experienced dog trainer who has worked with organisations such as Pets Therapy is coming into school to train Ivy, Miss Crawley and Miss Huntington. We have carried out an extensive risk assessment and the training will take place in our PPA room. Ivy will not be with any of the children at this stage and the training will continue over many weeks. Once Ivy is fully trained, I will be able to give you further information about how she will spend time in our school.

**Children in Need:**

The children looked wonderful in their colourful pyjamas, dressing gowns and onesies today to help celebrate Children in Need today. So far we have raised £448 on our JustGiving page which is fantastic and I am sure our total will be much more once we have added in the merchandise that has been bought and our pennies to cover Pudsey. Thank you for supporting Children in Need.

**Prospective Parents' Session:**

If you have a child due to start school in September 2022, and you would like to visit our school, we are holding two further prospective parent sessions. One is on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 1400 and the other is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 0900. Please email the school office, [admin@isleofelyprimary.org](mailto:admin@isleofelyprimary.org), if you would like to attend.

**Parking:**

It is great that the car park is now used so regularly to alleviate the congestion in the local area but please be aware that you should only park in the disabled bays if you hold a blue badge and this should be displayed in your car.

We have also received a complaint from the neighbours about one of our parents parking in the flats car park opposite the school reception. This is obviously private property so please do not park there.

**One way system:**

A big thank you to you all for following our one way system in the morning and at the end of the day. I know you may be tempted to nip in the out gate, especially if you park in the car park, but the system is needed so everyone can socially distance and to keep everyone safe. As the exit gate is on the field and it is getting very muddy and quite slippery at the moment, we are changing the exit gate from Monday. Instead of leaving the school across the grass, please exit the school via the grey gates, past the reception class area and out through the next set of grey gates. This should still allow for social distancing and allowing for the foot fall to flow.

**Christmas around the Orchards Estate (Graham Biss)**

As the Orchards estate around the school grows, ChristChurch, which meets in the school hall, is hosting a number of community building events over Christmas where people from the estate, families at the school and the Orchards care home can gather. We have an Advent Wreath making activity, a carol service with a tree decoration to bring, carol singing around the Orchards with mulled wine and a Christmas morning service. See the advert attached. Do join us and get to know your local community this Christmas.

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents/Carers from 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021

For any **SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED** case of COVID-19 in a child/young person please follow the flow chart below

**SUSPECTED** case if child/young person has COVID-19 symptoms

**Key symptoms:**

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

**Additional symptoms** that may be early warning signs of COVID-19 in children include upset stomach, headache, sore throat, unusual fatigue.

Book a **PCR test** as soon as possible online via the website [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus). Alternatively a PCR test can be ordered by phone on **NHS 119** for those without the internet.

Ensure child/young person isolates at home till the test result.  
**\*Who else needs to isolate?**  
**The rest of the household does not need to isolate if they are :**

- Under 18 and 6 months *and/or*
- Double vaccinated *and/or*
- Part of a COVID Vaccine trial *and/or*
- Exempt for other reasons

If none of the above apply then the household contacts **must** isolate till the test result.

**Result of test**  
(notify setting as soon as possible).

**NEGATIVE**

**POSITIVE**

Young person can return to setting once well. Any household contacts can stop isolating\*.

**CONFIRMED** case(s) following a Positive PCR Test

**Positive PCR Result**

Inform the setting of positive PCR. Young person must self- isolate for 10 days.

**The rest of the household does not need to isolate if they are:**

- Under 18 and 6 months *and/or*
- Double vaccinated *and/or*
- Part of a COVID Vaccine trial *and/or*
- Exempt for other reasons

If none of the above apply then the household contacts **must** isolate for **10 days**.

Ensure young person isolates at home for **10 days**, along with any members of their household who are **over 18 yrs & 6 months and have not had 2x COVID vaccines.\***

For **symptomatic** cases the day the symptoms began is DAY ZERO.

You need to add 10 further days after DAY ZERO.

For **asymptomatic** cases the date of the test is DAY ZERO.

You need to add 10 further days after DAY ZERO.

Isolation ends the day after day 10 – the young person can return to the setting, **if well**, and any eligible household members \* can stop isolating. If the child/young person has diarrhoea or are being sick, they should continue to isolate until 48hrs after symptoms – as per usual sickness protocol.

If anyone else in the household becomes unwell and tests positive for Covid-19 they will need to restart/start their 10 day isolation. The rest of the family who have been isolating\*, do not need to extend their isolations after completing the 10 days.

**CONFIRMED** case(s) following a Positive LFD Test

**Positive LFD Result**

Inform setting of positive LFD  
Take a PCR test **WITHIN 2 DAYS** of positive LFD - Online at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or **119**. Young person and eligible close contacts\* must self-isolate whilst waiting for the result.

**Negative PCR Result**

Young person and eligible close contacts\* can stop isolation and can return to the setting. Restart twice weekly LFD home testing in secondary aged pupils.

- We continue to ask families/children to wash hands regularly, keep spaces well ventilated, wear face covering in crowded, public indoor areas.
- Face covering are to be worn on transport to and from educational settings.
- LFD test = Lateral Flow Device tests are rapid tests that can be used at home and the result is available after 30 minutes.
- PCR test = polymerase chain reaction test that can be booked online and is sent to a lab for the result.
- If you have recently (within 90 days) had a positive PCR test for COVID-19 you are exempt from testing by both PCR and LFD within 90 days of a positive PCR test result, unless you develop new symptoms.
- LFD tests are used for identifying Covid-19 infection where there are no symptoms. If you have symptoms book a PCR test.
- LFD tests are safe to use in pregnancy. They should not be used in children under 12 years (unless in secondary school).
- If you have had a COVID-19 vaccination you should still take part in the LFD testing as you may still transmit the virus.
- If you have been identified as a close contact \* of a positive case, a negative LFD test does not mean you can stop isolating unless part of a workplace scheme.
- If you have had a recent nosebleed, or have a nose piercing use the other nostril to swab for the LFD test.

## School Term Dates 2021/2022

### Autumn term

Starts	Wednesday 1st September 2021
Half term	Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October 2021
Ends	Friday 17th December 2021
Christmas holiday	Monday 20th December 2021 to Monday 3rd January 2022

### Spring term

Starts	Tuesday 4th January 2022
Half term	Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February
Ends	Friday 1st April 2022
Spring (Easter) holiday	Monday 4th April - Monday 18th April 2022

### Summer Term

Starts	Tuesday 19th April 2022
Half term	Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June
Ends	Friday 22nd July 2022
Bank Holiday (School Closed)	Monday 2nd May 2022 & Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June

**PD days - The school is closed on the following days for the professional development of staff**  
1st September 2021, 22nd October 2021, 4th January 2022, 19th April 2022, 27th May 2022