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Weekly Newsletter – 26th February 2021

I hope you all had a lovely break from home learning and managed to enjoy some family time over the half-term. I know that so many of us - parents, children and teachers alike - breathed a sigh of relief on Monday when it was announced that the period of home learning was coming to an end. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all the children back into school on Monday 8th March and I know how much they are all looking forward to seeing their friends and teachers.

High Number of Cases in the Local Area

Although we will be delighted to see all our lovely children again, it is important to recognise that although levels of positive cases are dropping nationally, there are still high numbers in the Kirkham and Wesham area - greater than the national average and far higher than it was when we came back to school last September. Over the last few weeks there has been an increase in cases in local schools resulting in bubble closures. Therefore, it is vital that we continue to do all we can to reduce the number of cases and keep our school community safe, by minimising the mixing of households.

We have been fortunate that since October, we haven't had to close a year group here at KWPS and we very much hope to keep it that way. We are our reviewing procedures and risk assessments in light of the revised Government Guidance and the local situation. I will be sending home the key protocols for parents next week and I would be grateful if you could take the time to read them and adhere to them to ensure that we keep our pupils, staff and parents as safe as possible.

In the meantime, if you feel unwell in any way, the current advice from the local Public Health team remains that you should book a free test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. If you don't have one of the 3 main symptoms you should click 'you've been asked to take the test by local council'. Tests are readily available, usually within the hour and results are coming back in less than 24 hours.

Please note that headaches or a runny nose or tummy upsets have often been the only symptom of COVID-19, especially in children. Therefore, no child should be coming to school if they are unwell.

School Dinners for Week Beginning 8th March

If you wish your child to have school dinners from 8th March, whether you pay for them or not, please could you ensure that you go onto ParentPay to choose the lunches before **midnight on Tuesday 2nd March** as James, our cook, needs to put his food order in on the Wednesday morning.

Electronic Devices Borrowed From School

Please can anyone whose child has borrowed an electronic device from school ensure that they either return it to the office during the afternoon of Friday 5th or on the Monday morning. We will send a receipt confirming the return of the device home with your child.

Work Packs

Thank you for hitting the ground running with home learning after the half-term break - the teachers are delighted with how well the children have worked this week. When your child has finished their remote learning next Friday, please could you keep their work pack (including whiteboards for the infants) somewhere safe. Whilst we very much hope we don't have to implement any whole class closures for isolation following positive cases, if we do we will once again need to provide remote learning and these work packs will be needed.

School Uniform

If your child has shot up over the last couple of months and you are in need of school uniform, we do have new jumpers, cardigans, ties and t-shirts in school which are available to buy via ParentPay.

We have also built up a collection of 'pre-loved' uniform which are for sale - shirts, trousers, skirts, pinafores and Summer dresses for £1, jumpers and cardigans for £2 and good quality shoes and coats for £3. However these are only available in some sizes, so if you are interested in purchasing pre-loved items please ring to check with Mel in the office on 01772 682866 to see if we have the size you are looking for.

World Book Day – Thursday 4th March

We have reluctantly taken the decision **not** to ask children to dress up for world book day this year. Although we were torn, as we know that the children love it so much, we didn't want to put extra pressure on parents at a time when shops are closed and things are already fraught.

However, there will be book related activities as part of the home learning and we will be sharing the World Book Day voucher (which can be used in supermarkets that are stocking the World Book Day books including Morrisons) via ClassDojo.

We will also hold all our zoom social sessions on that day. It would be lovely if the children who join us for our last zoom sessions could bring their favourite book to share with their classmates:

Y6	9.15am
Y2	10.00am
Y3	10.45am
Y5	11.30am
Y4	1.15pm
Y1	2.00pm
Rec	2.45pm

The zoom links will be posted on class story on ClassDojo as usual.

Finally, thanks again for your continued support through this difficult time – just one week left of home learning to go. Fingers crossed that the sun will continue to shine over weekend.

Please take care and keep safe

Rhiannon Jones

