

# MELBOURNE INFANT SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs C Gibbs B.Ed, (Hons)



**Weekly Bulletin - Week ending 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are all very excited about the return to school for all children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. We would be grateful for your support in ensuring that we do everything we can to keep the school open by avoiding any further outbreaks of Covid 19.

These are some reminders of what you can do to help:

- Do not send your child to school if they, or anyone in your household, is displaying symptoms consistent with Covid 19. You should request a test and self-isolate until the outcome of the test is received. If the test is negative, your child may return to school. If it is positive, your household will need to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Please inform school of any positive tests of children as it may be necessary to close a bubble.
- Please observe the current government guidance on hand hygiene.
- Please be mindful of the risks of mixing with others outside school for social and club activities and follow all current government restrictions and guidance.
- Please do not come into the school building. Please email or telephone if you have a query or want to speak with a member of staff.
- To reduce the numbers on the playground at the beginning and end of the day we request that only one adult should come onto school premises. Unless exempt, adults should wear face masks and can all parents clear the school premises as quickly as possible.
- Please can all parents use the entrances/ exits which have been designated to your child's class.
- Please do not arrive at school before your staggered start time both at the start and end of the day.
- When walking on the paths, please follow the keep left approach to aid with social distancing.

Thank you in advance for your support.

## Lateral Flow Tests for Family Members

As part of the government's package of measures for the full opening of schools on March 8<sup>th</sup>, household members (not primary aged children) of primary school children are entitled to free lateral flow tests. These tests are easy to self-administer and have been in use by school staff twice a week for the past month. The tests are not available from schools but instead you can collect or order them. If you would like to get a twice-weekly test, the information of how to do so is below, summarised from this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-andbubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#how-to-get-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test>



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From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

## Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator. You may need to book an appointment. As far as we are aware the nearest rapid lateral flow test site is currently Midway, Swadlincote and Long Eaton.

## Collect test kits

You can collect up to 4 home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains 7 tests. Anyone 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go. Click here <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter.html> to find your nearest home test kit collection point.

## Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online. Click here <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-home-testing-kits-now-easier-to-order> test kit.

## What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test online or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. However, this DOES NOT guarantee that you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all coronavirus advice including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing



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We strongly encourage you and your family to take up this opportunity. The more people who are tested regularly across our school community the less likely we are to have a case in school and the more likely we are able to remain fully open over the coming weeks.

## **Parking**

Parents are requested NOT to park opposite the zig zag lines outside school for the safety of the whole community. Also, please be mindful to our neighbours when parking ensuring their driveways are clear at all times. On the same note please can parents/carers be reminded that parking within the school grounds is not permitted and is for staff only unless you have a blue badge or permission has been given for exceptional circumstances.

## **World Book Day**

To celebrate world book day the children were invited to wear their pyjamas and share their favourite bedtime stories. All the children had a fun, relaxing day in their pyjamas reading and discussing the characters in their books.

During the week of the 8<sup>th</sup> March, every child will receive a book voucher, which can be used to get £1 off any book or audiobook worth £2.99 or more.

## **Red Nose Day Friday 19th March**

This year we will be supporting Red Nose Day on Friday 19th March. This will be a non-uniform day and we will be asking the children to come along in their themed, fancy dress, super hero costume. Any donations can be sent into school in a sealed envelope. Thank you

## **PTA News**

### Mother's Day shop

Thank you to everyone who has pre-ordered their mother's day gifts. These will be in school next week. Please send £3 per gift in an envelope with your child's name and class. If you would still like to purchase a gift email [melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com](mailto:melbourneinfant.pta@gmail.com)

Deadline for all orders is midnight on Friday 5th March! Thank you for your support.

Have a lovely weekend,

Charlotte Gibbs  
Headteacher



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