

5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Everyone enjoyed World Book Day on Thursday and there are some great photographs on our website.

Next Monday we will celebrate International Women's Day. Our Living eggs will arrive and we will watch them every day as the chicks hatch.

On Monday March 8<sup>th</sup> all pupils should return to school in England so your journeys may be busier. Do give yourselves plenty of time and keep distancing safely.

## **Home Testing**

Staff will no longer be testing twice each week at school but will move to twice weekly home testing. Our risk assessment has been updated and you can see it on our website.

## **Testing information for pupils**

KS3 pupils will be offered tests at school three times next week **if requested by their parent.** They will be given packs for twice weekly home testing to start the week beginning Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>. Rian will let you know more information about sharing the home test results with us.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

## Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are <u>different ways</u> for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

As always do let us know if you have any questions or can help with anything,

Best wishes

Sleph Lea

Steph Lea Headteacher