

Friday Springfield Primary Academy

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Care, Collaboration, Challenge

Thursday 6th January 2022

Dear Parent

Welcome back to a new year and a new term. We hope that you've been able to have some time together as a family over the festive period.

Coronavirus Update

As daily cases of Coronavirus continue to be high both nationally and within our local area, I would like to reassure you that we are continuing to follow all government advice in dealing with the pandemic. The children are continuing to wash their hands on a regular basis, rooms are well ventilated, adults are wearing masks in communal areas during busy periods and key stage assemblies are taking place, rather than whole school assemblies. We are, however, attempting to be as 'normal' as possible in these difficult times.

During the winter months, classrooms are chillier than usual, due to having to ventilate the room. If your child has mentioned being cold in class, please don't hesitate in providing them with an extra layer.

In terms of self-isolation, since Wednesday 22nd December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for Covid-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental discretion.

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19, should take an LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with Covid-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with

Covid-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result.

From 11th January, if a person has a positive lateral flow test, but has no symptoms, there is no longer a need to confirm this with a PCR test. You will need to self-isolate immediately.

Nursery

I am pleased to report that we have been able to appoint an experienced Nursery Lead to take over Mrs. Augusta's role. Until she is able to take up post, Mrs. Nicklin will be stepping into the role on a temporary basis. Both Mrs. Barnett and Mrs. Blythin will continue to work in Nursery.

We also welcome Mrs. Karen Willett who has joined our teaching assistant team, initially working in Key Stage 1.

Themed Lunch

On Thursday 20th January, we will be having a themed lunch. Your child is invited to a 'Wild Western Feast'. Those that have a school lunch on that day will have the opportunity to win a 'Gold Rush' prize. Lunch must be booked on MCaS by midnight on Monday 10th January.

Change of Date

Looking ahead to our next academic year, 2022-2023, the teacher training day that was to be held on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 has been cancelled. Children will now return to school on this date after the Christmas holidays. Monday 31st October 2022 is now to be a teacher training day. Children will now return to school after the October break on Tuesday 1st November. The term dates on the website have been updated for your reference.

Diary Dates

25 th January	Class 3 handball festival
31 st January	Class 3/4 handball festival
11 th February	School closes for half term at 3.30pm
21 st February	Children return to school
3 rd March	World Book Day
21 st March	Class 2 athletics festival
1 st April	School closes for Easter at 3.30pm
20 th April	Children return to school

Thank you once again for your support

Yours faithfully

A. Willett