



St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 4th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is only one more sleep until the last remote learning day and we are really looking forward to welcoming the children back.

I thought it would be helpful to update you on how school will be working in school up to Easter so you can prepare your children.

The emphasis will vary on individual and year group needs but generally staff will be focusing on the children's general wellbeing by:



- settling the children back into a school routine whilst building confidence and re-establishing friendships
- encouraging children to talk and help them to feel comfortable to share how they might be feeling
- providing enjoyment and continuity across the curriculum
- building independence/ self-help skills such as organising belongings, hygiene particularly based on toileting, coughing, sneezing, nose blowing and good hand washing
- assessing gaps in Literacy, Numeracy, phonics and spelling to inform teaching and interventions
- using the outside area and offering interactive learning activities
- sharing and celebrating some of the fantastic work they have completed during lockdown

My previous letter covered return to school procedures, please refer back to that to ensure the children are prepared for Monday. Staff will be wearing masks/visors at certain points of the day e.g. collection and pick up. Please help school stay safe by following Covid safe guidelines.



COVID19 Testing

School staff are currently engaging with a twice-weekly COVID19 testing programme. They are using Lateral Flow Test (LFT) home testing kits. These are a different form of test to the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests that some of you may have had by attending a test centre. The samples in LFT tests are not sent to a lab for processing – you get a result at home after 30 minutes. They are designed to identify people who have no symptoms of COVID19 but who are carrying a high load of COVID19 infection. Access to LFT tests is being extended to adult members of households of school children and staff.

COVID19 Lateral Flow Testing for households of school children and staff

The government has just announced that families of children and staff in schools can access regular, twice weekly, lateral flow testing. Please note, these are for adults not children.

Please open the links below for information on how to order/access your home testing kits:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

[Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff)

What if I have COVID19 symptoms?

LFT tests must not be used to confirm whether people who are showing any of the three symptoms of COVID19 have or have not got the virus (continuous cough, temperature, loss of or change in taste and/or smell). If you have any of these symptoms you must isolate immediately and book a PCR test (regardless of the results of any LFT tests you may have done).



Building Developments

The final stage of the new building is very close and we hope the children in year 6 will be moving in, in a few weeks' time. The school site is not looking its best as the builders finalise things but we are delighted with the progress made. More information to follow in the next newsletter. The new EYFS toilets are complete in both classrooms and Mrs Thompson tells me the children who are in school are very happy with them.

So... enjoy your last few days of home schooling and roll on next week. Thank you for everything you have done to support school and especially the children.

Annette Mashru – Headteacher