



September 10<sup>th</sup> 2021

### **Covid 19**

As you will be aware, COVID 19 is prevalent at present locally and nationally. Indeed, after PHE and Local Authority advice this morning, I sent a letter out today highlighting some of the temporary changes needed for children in Year 6 after positive cases in this class. These arrangements will be reviewed on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The letter can be found [here](#).

It is really important that parents/carers do not send their child to school with any of the following symptoms. Please take a cautious approach at this time: -

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The basic principles are if your child has COVID 19 or any of the COVID 19 symptoms they should not be attending school. A link for ordering PCR tests is [here](#) or you call also telephone 119. It is advisable to have the test as quickly as possible and report the outcome to school as soon as possible.

The guidance around close contacts and households has changed as have the rules around self-isolation. The link is [here](#) but it is advisable to contact the school as each case may be slightly different. Thank you.

### **Reception School Places September 2022**

The window for applying for Reception places opened on Monday and runs until January 15th 2022. If you would like to arrange a visit, please contact the School Office who will arrange this with you. Parent/Carers of all children eligible to start Reception must submit an application. Further details on the process can be found [here](#).

### **Secondary School Places September 2022**

The application for secondary places is also open for the parents/carers of children in Year 6. Further information about the process can be found [here](#).

### **Year 3 visits**

As part of the Year 3 Geography work on rivers, Miss Crampton, Mrs Dupuy and I will be taking the children to the River Tees to look at some of its features on Monday. On Thursday, they will be out again walking around the town looking for historical clues and buildings as part of their work in History. The children will be going after lunch and return in time for the usual pick up arrangements. Please ensure that the children have a waterproof coat.

### **Year 5 Swimming**

The Year 5 children enjoyed the first swimming session of the year and I believe we have some very talented swimmers this year. The timings are quite tight and Teesdale Sports Centre cannot change our slot so it is probable that the children will return **around 3.10pm rather than 3pm on Thursdays**.

## PE Days

On PE days children can come to school in their PE kits, with the exception being children in Reception who learn, as the year progresses, to become more independent at getting changed. Please note the alteration to Year 6 PE days.

Reception - Wednesday

Year 1 – Friday

Year 2 - Monday

Year 3 – Tuesday and Thursday

Year 4 – Wednesday and Friday

Year 5 – Monday PE and **Thursday: Swimming**

Year 6 – Tuesday and Friday

## Year 1

Please can Year 1 children bring in a pair of wellies to leave in school. Thank you.

## Outdoor learning

We also plan to continue the popular outdoor lessons in the copse and around the school site. On these days the children should bring some older trainers, boots or wellies and have some older trousers or waterproofs if you have them, to put on at school (please do not purchase anything special for this). Reception will not need to bring any additional footwear as they have some in school.

Year 1 – Wednesday

Year 2 – Tuesday

Year 3 – Wednesday

Year 4 - Tuesday

Year 5 - Monday

Year 6 - Monday

## After School Clubs

After school clubs started on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September with each class, except Nursery having one club per week. Full details are on Weduc, including the booking form for you to complete. Payment of £17.50 should be paid in advance via Parent Pay. **Please do not allow your child to attend a club without first completing the booking form as school needs to know in advance who will be attending.**

## Reception & Nursery - new pupils - Parents Weduc & Parent Pay Login

Pupils in Reception and Nursery classes will have received their login information for both Weduc (our communication system) and Parent Pay (our payment system) this week and information is also available on our website.

The Reception pupils after school Craft Club is on a Thursday from 3:30 – 4:30pm, £2.50 per session.

## Paperwork

Forms have been sent home for completion and we would appreciate if you could return these asap.

## Diary dates

September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 local walk by the river
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 swimming
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 local history walk around town
October 25 <sup>th</sup> -October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Half term

Mr C Minikin, Head Teacher