



Weekly Bulletin 7th January 2022

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to the spring term. I hope you all enjoyed a restful and peaceful Christmas break. We extend our thanks to all of those who sent cards and gifts into school. They were greatly appreciated. We look forward to a hard-working, enjoyable and productive term ahead.

During the holidays there have been numerous updates from the government regarding Covid Guidelines and I have shared the latest updates below. We want to keep the school as Covid-secure as possible by strictly observing drop off and pick up times, sending the children with the requested equipment and leaving the school site as soon as they have collected their children. I remind parents that they must supervise their children if they are waiting to collect/drop off a sibling(s) if they are in different Key Stages. Please ensure your children stand with you and are not running around the waiting area.

Best wishes

Mr Rumbles

COVID-19 Guidance

Changes to testing

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for Covid-19 (reduced to 7 days provided there are two negative LFD tests on day 6 and day 7)

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 self-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 or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further information, including examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms, is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Daily testing for close contacts for Covid-19

The public health advice also states that those close contacts who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months “*should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time*”.

Dates

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Wednesday 12th – Friday 14th January 2022 – Y6 Residential to Robin Wood Activity Centre

Monday 14th & Tuesday 15th February – Parents’ Consultation Evenings

Y6 SATS week – Monday 9th – Thursday 12th May

Staffing update

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Claydon and Mrs Crook to our school. Mrs Crook has now taken up her teaching post in Year 4 and will also be leading computing. Mrs Claydon will cover PPA in Y1-Y6 and will be leading History, Geography and MFL in school.

Parental Support for SEND

There are a number of organisations and support networks for children with SEND. If you would like further information please do get in touch with the School office or Mrs Richardson who is our SENCO.

Online Safety

Many children will, no doubt, have received tablets, mobile phones or other electronic devices as gifts this Christmas. In order to support you in ensuring your children remain safe online, a range of resources are available via the school website. Please do make use of these.

Christian Values

We are exploring the value of peace this half term. Worship will be led by Mr Tait, Fr. Bill, Fr. Peter and the pupils.

Some further information about this half term’s value:

The biblical concept of peace is not just the absence of war. It includes peace with God, positive harmony and healthy relationships between people. It involves spiritual as well as material security. Peace, in the sense of total well-being for the whole of creation, is the ultimate goal. Matthew 5:9 says “**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God**”.

In the school context peace-making actions can include everything from conflict resolution to creating times and places for stillness and reflection.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- • How do you feel when you are peaceful?
- • What sort of things make you feel peaceful?
- • How important is peace in your life?

- Do you have a special place where you feel peaceful?

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffe@durhamlearning.net The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.