



2 March 2021

Weekly letter – Return to School on 8th March

Dear parents and carers

From their comments on Google Classroom, I can see that the children are excited to be back learning in school from Monday. Their teachers are also looking forward to having them back for 'normal' learning. After such a long absence, it will be natural for children to feel nervous about returning but I hope that, after a few days of normal school routine with their friends, they will soon feel comfortable again.

Here is some information to help prepare for the full reopening.

Coronavirus Safety

Whilst I am pleased to see that local COVID cases have fallen to the lowest they have been for over four months, it is still important to protect our children, staff and families from the virus and I do not wish to see any classes sent home to isolate due to a positive case being identified on site.

It remains extremely important that your child does not attend school whilst **anybody in your household is awaiting a coronavirus (COVID-19) test result** due to having symptoms.

1. Please do **not** send your child into school if someone in your household has coronavirus symptoms or is awaiting a test result.
2. Please do **not** come on site yourselves if you have symptoms or are awaiting a test result.
3. Please respect [current restrictions](#) that are in place - your child should only leave the home to attend school or for other essential purposes. They should **not** be playing with children from other families inside or outside the home.

Continuing to send your child to school in these circumstances may put other families' health and wellbeing at risk and could result in us having to close classes.

Home COVID tests for pupils and families

One way we can avoid bringing coronavirus into school is through home testing. Staff have been taking twice-weekly tests since January and, at the weekend, it was announced that families of school children will have access to home test kits. This is the information I received yesterday afternoon:

“On Sunday 28 February, the [Department of Health and Social Care announced](#) that from Monday 1 March, households with primary school children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

- via employers if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

“Letters containing advice on where to access testing will be made available shortly.”

I will let you know further information as soon as we have it.

Guidance on the use of face coverings in education

From the government guidance this week:

In primary schools, we recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and adult visitors in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible. *Children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering.*

If your child wishes to wear a face covering to and from school, please provide them with a named bag that they can store it in during the school day.

Timings

Timings are as they were last term. Please do not send your child into school early as this may result in children from different groups mixing.

Class	Arrive on or after	Start time	Drop off point	End	Collection point
3L	8:35	8:40	Classroom	3:10	Year 3 quad
3D	8:45	8:50	Classroom	3:20	Year 3 quad
4O	8:35	8:40	Front of school	3:10	Playground above y4
4A	8:40	8:45	Front of school	3:15	Playground above y4
5H	8:40	8:45	Front of school	3:15	Ramp outside Y5
5P	8:45	8:50	Front of school	3:20	Car park
6A	8:40	8:45	Front of school	3:15	Outside study
6P	8:45	8:50	Front of school	3:20	Steps by the library

In the morning, Year 3 children can be dropped off in the area outside their classroom doors. Year 4, 5 and 6 can be brought on to the school site and then they can make their own way through the side gates to class.

Uniform

Our uniform supplier, Ricky's Fashions, supplies a number of schools and may be very busy in the run up to next Monday. We advise putting any new orders in sooner rather than later. (Orders via email at ployal2012@gmail.com or phone - 07476 205255 or 01582 456609.)

As we will have windows open for ventilation, classrooms may be cooler than usual so please make sure that your child has warm clothing, even when it is sunny outside.

Please remember to ensure that all items of uniform are **clearly labelled** so that we can return them to your child if they are left on the playground or in the hall.

Dinners

Our kitchen will reopen with a full menu from Monday. You can pay for school dinners in the usual way.

Castle Club

Castle Club, our before and after school provision, is open and is currently taking bookings.

World Book Day

Year 6 were inspired by their recent online session with an author and the quality of their writing has improved further since that event. I hope that the other year groups are also inspired by their author 'visit's and the World Book Day events on 4 March. Please see the separate letter regarding these events.

Celebration Assembly

The children continue to impress us with their work! You can the latest collection here: [celebration26Feb](#)



Please note that our Google Classrooms will **close at 12:30pm on Friday** to allow staff to prepare lessons and classrooms for Monday.

Yours sincerely

Mr Hunt