

Blakesley CE Primary School
Blakesley
NN12 8RD

Newsletter 4 T1: 1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have had two outside agencies, REAL PE and Bikeability, working with our pupils and staff. Not only did our children have fun, but also plenty of opportunities to demonstrate their talents and skills. The feedback we have received about our school makes wonderful reading, “every class -well behaved children, focused and cooperative” and “the school has a genuine caring feel and ethos.” It is lovely to know that first-time visitors will go away with such a positive experience of being at Blakesley CE.

Parents’ Evening

A form will be distributed today that requires families to indicate which time slot they would prefer to meet their child’s teacher on the evening of October 12th/13th. Please get these forms back as quickly as possible to class teachers so time slots can be confirmed. It would be useful to indicate up to two possible preferences of times. Forms must be returned by 3pm Wed 6th Oct. Where possible teachers will always try to meet requests. Notification of finalised slots will be shared on Friday 8th Oct.

Breakfast provision

We are extremely grateful to Waitrose, Towcester for the kind and generous donation of breakfast provisions. A massive thank you too to the team of adults and children who liaised with the supermarket to secure this offering. This will allow our flourishing Breakfast club to be able to offer a wider choice of items for our children to choose from. If you would like to make use of this service, available every morning, please contact teejayklegeris@blakesleyprimary.co.uk

Public Health and Mitigation measures

Due to there now being 5 positive cases of Covid -19 amongst pupils, our school has been informed by Public Health England that it has become necessary to implement some measures from the contingency framework put in place in September to try and reduce the possibility of further infectious cases. These measures will stay in place until further notice.

From today until further notice

- Whole school gatherings eg Collective worship /Praise assembly will be postponed
- Staggered sittings and different playground timings to keep key stages apart at breaktime and lunchtime will be re-introduced.
- Signage about hygiene routines and symptoms will remain in place.
- Promoting good hygiene, including hand washing and covering the nose and mouth when coughing/sneezing will continue.
- Liquid soap and disposable paper towels are readily available at each sink area.
- Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces/touch points will continue.
- Occupied spaces will continue to be kept well ventilated. Please ensure children come to school with enough warm layers and a coat. (Maybe it is time to re-introduce the vest?)
- Staff or visitors may wear masks if they wish to when moving around the school.
- Where possible staff will maintain social distancing measures.

- Arrangements for pre-school/after school care and clubs will continue as normal. However, there will be seating arrangements to keep the two Key stages apart as much as possible.
- Any shared equipment between classes will be cleansed after use.
- Staff will continue to carry out self-testing (LFT) 2x per week.
- Remote learning will be offered to pupils who are absent from school for COVID reasons. Contact will be made with families and work issued via Teams or e-mail. Should the number of cases in a class rise to 6 pupils/more being absent at a time the offer of some live learning/contact via Zoom will become available.

The following information has been sent directly from Public Health England :

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but do not have symptoms, they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test) (www.gov.uk) or by calling 119.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

You will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you will be provided with advice on testing and given guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Even if you do not have symptoms, you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible.

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and has only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or has not received any dose of the COVID-19 vaccination will still be required to self-isolate as household contact of a someone with COVID-19 symptoms awaiting testing and someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Please read the stay at home guidance which provides information on this.

Household members who are not exempt from isolation as close contacts should not go to work, school/college/childcare/education setting or public areas, and exercise should be taken within the

home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and

medication by phone or online. Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

You could be fined if you do not self-isolate following a notification by NHS Test and Trace. You may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate or you are the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate.

Those who are clinically extremely vulnerable should be supported to minimise their contact with other people in the household during this period, regardless of whether others have symptoms or not.

Instructions for household contacts who are not required to self-isolate

Even if you are vaccinated, you can still be infected with COVID-19 and pass it on to others. If you are identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 but you are not required to self-isolate, you can help protect others by following the guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread. As well as getting a PCR test, you may also consider:

- limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
- wearing a face covering for those aged 11 and over in crowded places such as school/college/public transport
- limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable · taking part in regular LFD testing

You should follow this advice while the person in your household with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

If you are a health or social care worker or a student undertaking a work placement who has been identified as a household contact and are exempt from self-isolation, there is additional guidance available that you should follow to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 in these settings.

If you develop symptoms at any time, even if these are mild, self-isolate immediately, arrange to have a COVID-19 PCR test and follow the guidance for people with COVID-19 symptoms.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can book COVID-19 vaccination appointments now and 16-17 year olds are being offered 1 dose of the vaccination by 23 August
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

· meet people outside and avoid crowded areas

· open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside

· wear a face covering if aged 11 and over when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Future Dates

- 12th Oct Parents Evening
- 13th Oct Parents Evening
- 15th Oct Bread and Soup Supper (TBC)
- 18th October Open Evening 5.45pm Prospective Parents

If there are aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss or if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Laurie Hill
Headteacher