



Number 7 : 7th January 2022



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term and may I wish you all a Happy New Year!

Thank you to everyone who has carried out lateral flow tests with their children this week before sending them to school. We very much appreciate everybody's endeavours to keep all of us, staff and children, safe. In line with the enhanced measures put in place by the Department for Education, Sport & Culture, you will have been asked to continue testing every Tuesday and Thursday, unless you are contact traced by us, in which case you will need to do 10 days of testing. Naturally, I would like to remind you not to send the children to school if they are unwell.

Unfortunately we have been unable to run the Sports Commission's PE clubs this half term because we are not able to mix year group bubbles. We plan to push these back to next half term instead when we are hopeful of being able to restart.

The children have managed really well within their class bubbles so far. Consequently they spend all day together as a group and don't mix with the other classes in their year group. This is aimed at slowing down the spread of the virus and therefore we will only be sending contact letters to specific classes (should we need to) whilst we are in bubbles. However you may have noticed we are running with quite a few staff off and there may be times when we may need to combine classes in a year group. In this instance the whole year group would receive a letter. As the testing system has changed, please can I remind parents that you need to inform us straight away if your child has tested positive as we will not hear this from the Contact Tracing Team.

The children have focused this week on the UNICEF Rights of the Child and Global Goals; refreshing their knowledge and understanding of the part we all play. When life returns to a more normal routine we will reschedule the enterprise activities that should have happened both at the end of term and this week.

We would normally aim to send out curriculum newsletters to you all at the start of the term but this may be delayed a little whilst we are adapting the curriculum during these current times.

Finally thank you so much for the support shown and messages sent. It is a challenging time for us all, but we will continue to try to do the very best for the children and try to minimise the disruption to their learning and social development.

As adults, in these times it is really important that we also look after ourselves and show the children how to support ourselves and each other. The Action for Happiness Calendar is a good starting point for ideas of daily things to promote positive mental wellbeing. A copy of the calendar for January is also attached with this email if you would like to have a look.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe and well.

Mrs Coughlin

Headteacher