



Newsletter No. 7

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another half term has passed in challenging circumstances. We are looking forward to hearing from the Prime Minister on the 22nd February to hear the plans for schools moving forwards. We continue to review and update our risk assessment every two weeks and we will be ready to welcome the children back as soon as we are told the plans for this next step. With this in mind, after half term there will be some minor changes to the times of your children's zoom groups as we prepare to return to school. An email will be sent at the end of half term with the information for your child. Children will still be zooming with their class teachers in the morning and the afternoon, in addition they may also begin to see their teaching assistants on some zoom sessions to support transition back in to school.

We continue to appreciate that this is a challenge for everybody. This is exhausting and we can all feel challenged by the pressure but in everything you do you are continuing to make a positive difference. Whether that is as a critical worker or at home supporting home learning and juggling work commitments you are all doing our bit. Thank you. You are doing an amazing job. We are so proud of the work that is happening at home and at school. Your efforts to stop the spread of the virus during these unprecedented times are valued. You may have seen Mrs Pentney's article in the Sawston Scene exploring this a little further. Most importantly we can see the difference this is having in local infection rates.

Lateral Flow Testing:

On the subject of stopping the spread of the virus, staff in school have begun twice weekly lateral flow testing to support the efforts to break transmission chains of covid-19.

The following information details the process:

- *staff carry out a lateral flow test twice weekly and report their results to the NHS.
- *if a member of staff has a positive result they will immediately contact us so we can take action
- *if a member of staff working within a class bubble tests positive, the bubble will close and self isolation for staff and pupils will begin following national guidance
- *The member of staff will undertake a PCR covid-19 test as soon as possible
- *If the PCR test comes back negative then the member of staff and pupils can return to school.
- *If the PCR test comes back positive then the member of staff and pupils will need to self-isolate for 10 days as per the government guidance

We will get a message to parents of in school bubble children as promptly as possible but certainly by 8.15am if a bubble needs to close and self isolate whilst the member of staff undergoes a PCR test. We will only message you regarding positive Lateral Flow tests. We will not inform you of negative results as we fully expect this to be the case in the vast majority of tests. We appreciate this would mean critical worker/vulnerable children having to self-isolate and move to home learning for this time. However, I am sure that you understand our position on this and the need for us all to help stops the spread of covid-19. We also hope this will reassure you all further on the measures we are taking as part of our risk assessment to ensure school is as safe as it can be for pupils and staff. This testing will continue when all pupils return, as previously mentioned we will receive advice on when this will be on the 22nd February. Despite this testing our risk assessment measures to keep school as safe as possible remain in place and all staff are following these measures with care and rigour.



February 12th
2021

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The work this half term at home and at school has been a delight to see. A few pieces are shared in pictures at the end of the newsletter. Creative use of ice at home in year 1, clay work inspiring writing in year 4, bird feeders and nests in year 2 are just some of the images below. Just wonderful!

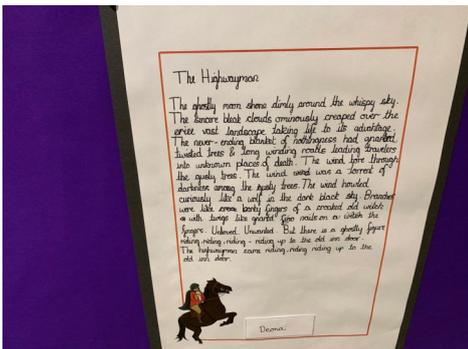
Finally, we know half term will be different this year, we haven't seen the return to normal we had hoped for. We hope despite this you are able to enjoy the things you can do in the safety of your home and exercising in your local area. We are sharing the National Trust 50 things to do by the time your 11 and 3/4 for inspiration if this is needed. Click or copy and paste this link:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/50-things-to-do-before-youre-11--activity-list>

Thank you again for all that you are doing and for the kind messages of support we continue to receive. Stay safe everyone, we will all be together again soon.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Kendall and Mrs Pentney



**Well done everyone!
Happy half term, stay safe!**

