



Dear Parents / Carers,

The spring term started last week with continuing uncertainties around Covid. Thank you for the positive response to the letter sent out in advance of the children's return and for continuing to take a cautious approach with regard to any Covid symptoms or household/family cases which may impact the school.

### Latest Covid guidance

As I am sure you are aware the national guidance on LFD and PCR testing is changing from tomorrow.

- From 11<sup>th</sup> January, as a short term measure, if anyone receives a positive LFD test then a PCR test to confirm this is no longer a requirement. Instead the isolation period starts immediately from the LFD test and lasts for 10 days (unless negative LFD tests are taken 24 hours apart from Day 6 in which case the isolation period can end early).
- A PCR test must still be sought if anyone has Covid symptoms and much quicker results do seem to be provided if PCRs are taken at a walk in/drive through testing centre, so please persevere when getting them booked.
- If the PCR test comes back positive, the individual should follow [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(covid-19\) infection](#).

The guidance on pupils in school has not changed and is as outlined in the earlier Covid update:

- People who are fully vaccinated, or children aged 5+, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and, if negative, they can continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. *[However, if you have concerns about a child developing symptoms due to close proximity to other household members who have tested positive then some families have chosen to keep their child at home to monitor symptoms especially during the first few days of self-isolation. **This is understandable and we would support this if it is your decision.**]*
- Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. *[We would ask that for our Eastlea risk assessment, that anyone awaiting a PCR test result remains off school pending the outcome. As soon as a negative result is received then the child can return to school.]*

Due to the higher levels of transmission at the moment adults will also be wearing masks as they move around the building as well as in communal areas in order to protect each other as much as possible.

### Sending messages to school staff

It is very important that communication between home and school is maintained, especially in the current climate. We have had a few issues lately with messages relating to attendance information, pick up and collection arrangements etc not getting through to the staff who need this.

Please note that the school Facebook account is not monitored regularly during the day while staff are teaching and it is best to ring the office if there is a message which needs to be actioned during the day.

Seesaw/Tapestry messages are also not always picked up straight away while teachers are in the classroom and so again we would ask that where possible you continue to telephone the office to ensure messages are picked up in a timely manner. Thank you!

### Scooters, bikes and cars

We have been pleased to see several pupils coming to school on scooters and bikes newly acquired over Christmas. Please make sure that any that are left on the school site are securely locked on the bike/scooter racks in order to keep them safe. Helmets can be left in school during the day if required.

**Please can I also remind those who come to school by car to park responsibly and not leave cars parked on narrow estate roads which cause a hazard to local residents and also could lead to real issues if emergency vehicles needed access to the estate.** Cars should only be left unattended during drop off and collection times and not for extended periods. Thank you for your support with this.



## Events and dates for the diary planned for this half term

We continue to do our utmost to ensure that we provide a wide range of activities for the children and the following list is what we have in the diary so far for the coming weeks.

What's on	When and who?
Multi-skills coaching	Wednesday afternoons from 5 <sup>th</sup> January (Y1 and Y2)
Specialist French tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Y5/6 led by Mme Taylor from 5 <sup>th</sup> January
Specialist Music tuition	Wednesday afternoons for Reception/Y2/Y4/Y5/Y6 from 5 <sup>th</sup> January led by Mrs Allenby and Ms Hedley
Basketball/Football/Athletics coaching	Thursday afternoons from 6 <sup>th</sup> January (Y4 and Y5) Tuesday afternoons from 11 <sup>th</sup> January (Y3 and Y6)
Skipping sessions	Friday afternoons from 7 <sup>th</sup> January (Y5)
STEM person of the week focus	Each week from Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> January for 5 weeks
Weekly swimming lessons	Monday afternoons from 10 <sup>th</sup> January (Year 4)
Hula Hooping sessions	Monday afternoons from 10 <sup>th</sup> January (Year 3)
Fitness/skipping sessions	Monday afternoons from 10 <sup>th</sup> January (Year 6)
Rocksteady class band sessions	Continuing on Tuesday mornings from 11 <sup>th</sup> January
Skipping festival	Morning of Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January (Year 5) plus taster session for Y6
Futsal coaching	Wednesday mornings from 12 <sup>th</sup> January (Reception)
Bikeability level 1 training day	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> January (group Y5 and Y4 pupils)
Year 3 Multiskills School Games final	Morning of Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> January
<i>Rocksteady assemblies/workshops? (Covid dependent)</i>	<i>Morning of Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January</i>
'Wor Bella' World War One music/performance project	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February (Y5/Y6)
<b>Maths Week (more details will follow nearer the time)</b>	<b>Week beginning Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January culminating in NSPCC Number Day on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February</b>
School Sport Organising Crew	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> February (group of Y6 girls)
Y4 gymnastics competition <i>(Covid dependent)</i>	Afternoon of Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> February (team from Y4)
Spring term Full Governing Body meeting	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February at 4.30pm
Publication of Year 'Our School' Evening Chronicle pages	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Sportshall athletics KS2 school games competition <i>(Covid dependent)</i>	Morning of Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February – team from Y5/Y6
Scholastic Book Fair in school	Week beginning Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February
February GOLDEN DAY	Either Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> or Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February
Children break up for half term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February (normal time)
Start of the second half of the spring term	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February

## Clubs

We have a full programme of clubs for this half term and most letters about these have been sent out. As we explained in the recent Covid update letter – for those clubs which involve more than one year group and take place indoors we will aim to ‘bubble’ the year groups separately. Those which take place outside will run as normal.

Before school	Lunchtime	After school
Breakfast Club (7.30 – 8.45am <b>each day</b> ). This costs £2.50 per day. 	KS2 Professional football coaching for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on <b>Tuesdays</b> (£2 per session)	Multi-skills club for Reception on <b>Tuesdays</b> Grassroots Gymnastics club for Reception to Y6 on <b>Tuesday evenings (5.30 – 7.00pm)</b> . This costs £5.00 per session Munchie Maths Club for Y6 on <b>Tuesdays</b> (from 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan)
Street Dance Club for Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 on <b>Thursdays from 8am</b> in the school hall	Woodland Walk club for a different year group each week on <b>Wednesdays</b>	Singing Club for Y4/Y5 on <b>Wednesdays</b>
Bacon Butty Booster for Y6 on <b>Wednesdays from 8am</b> (from 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan)		Fiddles Progression lessons for group of Y4 on <b>Wednesdays</b>
<b>Owlets toddler group</b> for pre-school children and their parents/carers/ childminders: <b>Thursdays 9.00 – 10.30am</b> in the school hall <i>Sessions cost £3.00 plus 50p per extra child</i> 	Running Club for Y4, Y5/Y6 on a rota basis on <b>Thursdays</b>	Basketball club for Y5/Y6 on <b>Thursdays</b>

## PE kits

The new arrangements suggested by Brainwaves for pupils to come to school dressed in their PE kit on days they have PE have proved to be very successful so far. Staff have reported that there has been a considerable amount of lesson time saved as there has been no need for children to get changed in school. The children have looked smart in their dark navy/black tracksuit bottoms and school sweatshirts. Please can we just remind you that the tracksuits need to be **PLAIN** – stripes or large logos are not permitted.

## Keeping warm in school

As we have done since the start of the Covid pandemic, windows are open in school in school to provide ventilation and ensure we do our best to keep everyone safe. In winter weather this can mean that it is cooler in the classrooms, so as we reminded the children last week, it is fine for pupils to wear additional layers if they are feeling the cold in school. Staff are doing the same thing!

Yours sincerely,

**Miss E Beeston**  
Head Teacher