



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## COVID RELATED NEWS – UPDATED THIS WEEK

### Individuals presenting with covid-19 symptoms

If children develop one of the 3 main symptoms of Covid-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)), then you [should order a PCR test](#). Children are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while they are waiting for the test result. If they test positive then please follow the guidance below; if they test negative then they may return to school and carry on with normal routines, presuming they feel well enough.

### Isolating after a confirmed positive PCR test

Many people will no longer be infectious to others after 5 days, however we would ask that children take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms followed by another LFD test the next day. If both these test results are negative, and they do not have a high temperature, the risk that they are still infectious is much lower and they can safely return to school and their normal routines. LFD test kits may be ordered from here: [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

What a joy it was to see all the children in their wonderful outfits yesterday as they celebrated World Book Day together. I think I lost count of the number of Harry Potters, Willy Wonkers, Golden Tickets, BFGs and Gansta Grannies we saw! We also had a number of Where's Wallies, but they were somewhat harder to spot! Thank you to everyone for working so hard to bring so many of our favourite book characters to life.

If you are not following us on Facebook, please do. We post throughout the week with news, photos and videos of some of the things the children have been getting up to. This week you can find lots of photos from World Book Day as well as a video from our Dance Club who competed at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone as part of the Great Big Dance Off competition. Take a look online.

### ATTENDANCE

Yet again, our attendance this time last week has increased on previous weeks. Last week it was 95.94%, bringing our year to date attendance to 94.06%. This upwards shift is much appreciated. We still need to work hard to reduce the number of lates please. Remember, the gate for years 5 and 6 closes at 8:40 and for years 3 and 4 at 8:50. Arriving after this time creates an unsettled start to the day. Thank you.

69 pupils remain in the 100 Club.

### SECONDARY SCHOOL OFFERS

If you have not yet heard which school your child has been allocated, please contact the school office urgently. Offers will need to be accepted or refused, although families are strongly recommended to accept the offer, even if an appeal is being pursued (see below). **Please see the attached file on how to go about accepting or refusing a school place.**

For some children, they may not have been offered their first choice or any of their choices. For families who wish to appeal the offer, the following steps should be followed:

- accept the school your child has been offered
- contact the school(s) you wish to appeal for a place. Each individual school will talk you through their appeals process along with deadlines.
- If you have not visited other schools you may wish to appeal to, do.
- If required, contact us to request a supporting letter

If you are going through the appeals process, please remember this can be an unsettling time for children, especially if they feel they don't know where they are going in September. Our advice to support them is to focus on the school they have been offered rather than on the appeal process. If you need support, please contact the school office.

### WORLD BOOK DAY

**Year 3:** It was incredibly hard to judge the winners for the best fancy dress as the children's efforts were all so good. Finally, we selected Nevaeh London as Gangsta Granny and Hayden Lindsay for the creativity shown in dressing as a Golden Ticket, from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Well done. During the day, Year 3 found out more about how the famous author and illustrator Jonny Duddle turns his ideas into a fully-fledged picture book. Using his story Gigantosaurus as a stimulus the children created their own explorer characters, developed a story setting and even made their own Dino-Spotter books!

**Year 4:** We held a year group World Book Day parade to show off our amazing costumes. It was great to see such a wide range of book characters and the effort children had gone to create their outfits. It was a difficult decision but we awarded the most creative costume was awarded to Josh Von Graevenitz and Alice

*Compassion, Courage, Hope, Integrity, Justice, Respect, Responsibility, Wisdom*



Bailey. In class, we held a Roald Dahl themed day based on The BFG. The children enjoyed making dream jars and took part in live book day events.

**Year 5:** In Year 5, we used the story of Rocket Rules as a stimulus for the children to make their own list of 'ways to change the world for the better'. From this, they each created a mini-zigzag book to write and illustrate their ideas. Many children focused on the importance of kindness and giving to those in need, whilst also touching on ways to support the environment. Their ideas would most definitely change the world for the better!

**Year 6:** We did a guess the adult and favourite book, design a rap from a short story book, an emoji book quiz, listened to some short stories read online and by the class teachers and finally had the opportunity to admire the fantastic costumes worn by the children (and adults)!

## SCIENCE WEEK

Next week is British Science Week. We will be celebrating this in school through a variety of Science related activities for the children to enjoy. The theme of the week is 'Growth' and to support this, all year groups will be spending some time in the forest area looking at the growth of trees. Therefore, year groups will need to bring wellies/old shoes in on the following days:

- **Monday – Year 5**
- **Tuesday – Year 4**
- **Thursday – Year 3**
- **Friday – Year 6**

**The children do not need to wear a PE kit on these days.**

As well as activities in class, we will be running a school-wide competition to celebrate Science week. Classes will be asked to design a weather station for the forest area. The winning class will then have their design created for them. There will be time next week to create a class design, but you can support your child by encouraging them to start thinking of ideas over the weekend. Ideas could include:

- A weather vane
- A water transportation system
- A rain gauge
- An outdoor thermometer

## CAKE SALE FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Don't forget our cake sale on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March to raise money for Children's Mental Health. It will be held on the courtyard in the bike sheds from 3pm until 3:30pm. Any donations should be brought to the school office that morning. Thank you.

## INCLUSION TEAM NEWS

### #WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

WHAT PARENTS AND CARERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents and can be used to make voice notes and video calls; it is recommended for those aged 16+. A lot of young people use this app and need to understand how to use it safely. In the guide attached to the newsletter, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as scams, strangers and location sharing.

## HELPING YOUR CHILD MAKE SENSE OF WORLD EVENTS

Children are constantly absorbing things they read, see and hear and it's completely natural for them to be picking up on the situation in Ukraine and feeling anxious and also asking questions about what is going on.

Children and young people have experienced an incredibly difficult two years due to the pandemic, and now they are faced with an even more uncertain world with the threat of conflict and war. It is important that we don't avoid talking to our children about what is going on, but you might want to try to moderate their exposure to constant rolling news and updates.

The guide attached to this newsletter contains useful advice on the best way to help your child with their questions and concerns about current world event.

## HELPING HANDS

Supporting households facing financial hardship as a direct result of Covid 19.

The Fuel Costs Support Voucher scheme is now available to Kent residents, in partnership with Green Doctors. The scheme offers fuel vouchers that can be used with pre-payment meters to help towards their fuel bills, heating and essential items related to keeping warm.

Please see the attached flyer for eligibility criteria and contact Mrs Evett-Collins or Mrs Edwards if you think you might be eligible for the support.

*Compassion, Courage, Hope, Integrity, Justice, Respect, Responsibility, Wisdom*



Healthy School



## INCLUSION BEAR

### **Nominations -**

Mrs Evett-Collins nominated Sophie in 3 for letting her brother borrow her brand-new bike for Bikeability. It was very kind of her, especially when she is desperate to do Bikeability herself!

Mrs Boardman nominated Lexi Lee Jones in 5EW for being such a kind and caring person. Mrs Boardman said "Every day she comes and asks how I am. Also, when she heard my husband was going into hospital, she wished him all the best and said she hopes it all goes well".

Mrs Sutherland would like to nominate Yusuf in 4MC. When I was on my way to the office this afternoon, Yusuf changed direction to walk back and hold not just one but two doors open for me. I didn't ask him to and I was so impressed with his wonderful manners - it brightened up my afternoon! Thank you, Yusuf!

Mrs Sutherland would also like to nominate Ellis in 4IK. When I returned to class after being poorly, I found a lovely get well soon card on my desk that Ellis had made me. It was so thoughtful and really cheered me up! Thank you, Ellis!

### **Awarded to -**

Athena in 3WH nominated Mrs Curtis (one of our lovely dinner ladies) as she had a bad back but still came into school to serve school dinners to everyone.

## SPORTS AWARD

The Sports Award this week has been awarded to Olivia in 6SE. She supported Maddie in this week's cross country tournament and they crossed the finish line together hand in hand. Amazing sportsmanship Olivia.

## ROCKING READERS

World Book Day certainly seemed to stimulate lots of reading this week, so there was plenty to celebrate in assembly today. 3CC, 5BP, 5JN, 6CS and 6LS have all achieved average quiz scores of over 90% - fantastic! Well done also to 5BP and 5PS who jointly won the Meerkat for having zero outstanding books.

This week's Rocking Readers winners are the children of 6CS for achieving both a high quiz percentage and a high number of engaged minutes. Well done everyone.

## STAR OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children for being identified as this week's Stars of the Week.

3AR	Nell Cowling
3BW	Krina Patel
3CC	Shruti Chinnien
3WH	Elsie Gilmour
4HO	Ivy Hodges
4IK	Sky Seager
4MC	Macie Miller
4WK	Poppy Leeds
5BP	Lola Russell
5EW	Zachary Richardson
5JN	Tommy-Joel Mead
5PS	Stephanie Horsley
6CS	Morgan-Rose Harris
6KDO	Ava-May Cook
6LS	Roman Lee
6SE	Erica Sandy

With my best wishes,



Melody Kingman  
Head Teacher

*Compassion, Courage, Hope, Integrity, Justice, Respect, Responsibility, Wisdom*



Healthy School

