



Friday 21st January 2022

COVID-19 INFORMATION

You must self-isolate straight away and book a PCR test if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19: a high temperature, a new continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

You must self-isolate straight away if you've tested positive for COVID-19 by LFD test.

Please see [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection) (www.gov.uk) for isolation guidance.

If someone you live with is isolating due to testing positive, you **do not** need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- You're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine
- You're under 18 years, 6 months old
- You're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- You're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

If the above applies, and you are aged 5 years and over you are strongly advised to:

- Take an LFD test every day for 7 days, or until 10 days since your last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 if this is earlier
- Take this daily test before you leave the household for the first time that day

If you are unsure whether you or a family member should self-isolate, please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus or call 111 for further advice. Mr Foremen and Mrs Botzet are also available via the school office.

Despite the daily Covid numbers reducing nationally, case numbers are high in Kent and we are experiencing an outbreak of the virus in Year 4. We are managing this by asking families to use LFD tests daily in line with the government guidance of daily testing for close contacts. This has identified some asymptomatic cases in children who, without the result of the test, would otherwise have attended school. Having consulted with both PHE and the local authority, they are fully supportive of this strategy as a way to control further transmission. Fortunately, teaching and support staff have not been too badly affected and we have been able to run the year group with little disruption to learning.

While we have the use of LFD tests to identify asymptomatic cases, I strongly advise families to use them in all year groups at a minimum of twice weekly. This will help to identify cases and lower the risk of transmission. If your child has any of the main symptoms of Covid, please ensure that a PCR test is also taken. The information at the top of this newsletter includes links that will take you directly to the government guidance.

On a lighter note, on Tuesday evening Mr Hobbs led a Forest Rangers evening. This was an opportunity for a group of children to engage in a Bushcraft experience, exploring the forest out of the daylight hours and cooking tea over a camp fire. This was enjoyed by all the children and some wonderful feedback was received: "(my son) really, really enjoyed the evening and didn't stop chattering about how fantastic the experience was all the way home."

More dates have been set for the coming months ☺

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance to date is 94.45% - this does not include Covid-related illness.

106 children remain in the 100 club.

A huge well done to 3BW, 3WH and 5EW for achieving 97%+ this last week; 3BW with 98.39%!

PTA ANNUAL COIN COLLECTION

It's time to dig down the side of the sofa, search the bottom of your handbag and raid the piggy banks for our annual PTA Coin Collection!

All next week the children can bring in loose change to fill their individual class collection pot. These will be counted daily and the class with the most money collected by the end of the week will receive a prize (to be announced)!

So, get hunting for those coins!

TEACHING & LEARNING

Free maths app for developing mathematicians

This week, White Rose Maths released a brand-new app called **1-Minute Maths**. The app is designed to help children build greater number confidence and fluency through targeted practise in engaging, one-minute chunks. It is a **free**, easy-to-use app, **available on Apple and Android devices**. **No login details are required** and once downloaded, **no internet access is required** to play it. It will provide **short, daily practise** opportunities for any children who may need to further develop their addition and subtraction facts and subitising skills.

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This would be an ideal app for children in Years 3 and 4 or for children in Years 5 and 6 who may still be finding it tricky to quickly recall key facts.

INCLUSION TEAM NEWS

SRP consultation

The consultation on the proposal to establish a joint 20 place Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP), for pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), at Herne Bay Infant School & Nursery and Herne Bay Junior School has been paused until the current review of SRPs across the County, being undertaken by Kent County Council, has been completed. The review will be looking at the current model, alternative models and reviewing their contribution and impact on the countywide development of inclusion in mainstream schools.

It is expected that the review will report by the end of March 2022 and will inform future provision.

The drop-in session planned for the 27th January has therefore been cancelled. Any updates will be posted on our website.

STLS

The Specialist Teaching and Learning Service (STLS) are an outreach service from St Nicholas School, Canterbury who support the needs of children in mainstream schools. They provide training for school adults and families to better understand the needs of children with SEN. The training brochure for families can be found here: [Parents | St Nicholas School \(st-nicholas.kent.sch.uk\)](https://www.stnicholas.kent.sch.uk/parents)

STLS provide a course for siblings of children with ASD. The 3 day course is designed to support siblings to better understand the condition. although the course is during school time, it'll be coded as education off-site for any siblings who do attend and will not affect their attendance. Please use this email for bookings and enquiries: stls@stns.org.uk

STLS are also running a 3-day course for parents of children with ASD regarding Puberty, Sexual well-being and relationships. Please use this email for bookings and enquiries: stls@stns.org.uk

SEN Surgery

Our SEN Surgery continues to be a useful resource for parents who wish to discuss the needs of their child, processes to secure additional support and information regarding assessments.

The appointments are 30mins long and held over the phone hosted by three members of staff, Sammy Black (SENCO), Tracey Hewitt (SEN Assistant), Rowena Evett-Collins (Deputy Head Teacher for Inclusion).

We would always advise a conversation with your child's class teacher initially to ensure that you have the full picture of how your child presents in school.

SEN Surgery runs on Wednesday afternoons this term with appointments available at 1:15pm, 1:45pm and 2:15pm. Please call the office, and ask for one of the above adults, to book a slot.

Fegans Counselling Service for Young People

Fegans are a service commissioned by the Police Violence Reduction Unit to provide CBT or other therapeutic support to young people this year.

They offer online training and school counselling to support family wellbeing and also offer parenting support and training. www.fegans.org.uk

St Giles Trust Mentoring Service- SOS+ Mentoring scheme

Following on from previous information about the St Giles Trust (Newsletter January 7th), St Giles Trust now have Mentoring spots available for young people aged 11-18 who are vulnerable to CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation). This is funded via Kent Police Violence Reduction Unit.

SOS+ works with local partners to identify children and young people in need of 1:1 mentoring; these children and young people are displaying risk indicators that may make them more likely to become involved in youth violence and exploitation (e.g. truancy, missing episodes, involvement with the criminal justice system, safeguarding concerns etc.)

SOS+ Mentors are positive role models; they are credible and provide children and young people the safe space for authentic conversations about their experiences while also developing their self-esteem, creating a positive self-identify and raising aspirations.

Information and the referral form are attached to the newsletter for your information.

If you have any questions please speak to Mrs Evett-Collins or a DSL.

They also have a useful section for how parents and caregivers can support young people: www.stgilestrust.org.uk/support-us/keep-children-safe/help-for-parents-and-caregivers/

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

What parents need to know about Snapchat

Snapchat is a photo and video sharing app through which users can chat with friends via text or audio. Images and videos can be shared with specific friends, or as a 'story' (documenting the previous 24 hours) that's visible to a person's entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the lockdowns, with many young people utilising it to stay connected with their peers. In the guide attached to the newsletter, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as sexting, visible location and strangers.

HUGGY WUGGY – POPPY PLAYTIME

We are aware of a new online game called Huggy Wuggy - Poppy Playtime - whilst this may sound child appropriate; it is not. Videos and versions of the game are now on YouTube, Roblox and other platforms used by your children, featuring frightening images and themes.

Please see the link for guidance: [Poppy Playtime: Online Safety Review - Safer Schools \(oursaferschools.co.uk\)](https://www.oursaferschools.co.uk/our-saferschools/online-safety-review)

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Healthy School



INCLUSION BEAR

Nominations:

Mrs Kingsland nominated Evah-Rose in 5BP for looking after a child that was on her own at lunch. She sat with her and then included her in activities in the playground.

Lexi in 4MC was nominated as she had been very caring this week and looked after a friend in Year 3 that had an injury.

Rebecca and the rest of 5EW nominated Mrs Kemp and Mr Tadman for looking after them so well whilst their teacher has been poorly.

Awarded to:

Kyle nominated Alistair in 4IK for being such a good friend. Alistair looks after him when he is sad and helps him in games on the playground.

ROCKING READERS

4WK are this week's Rocking Readers, recognised for achieving 91% - their highest score since September!

Two classes have only 1 outstanding book from the library: 5BP and 6SE. They will enjoy sharing time with the Meerkat next week!

SPORTS AWARD

Demi in 5EW is fast becoming recognised for her ability in football. Having joined the girl's football team, she scored a goal in their match against Luddenham Primary School this week and our team went on to win! Well done Demi, you are a worthy Sports Award winner 😊

STAR OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children for being identified as our Stars of the Week.

3AR	Joe Tomlinson
3BW	William Mason
3CC	Laila Gilbert
3WH	Millie Dale
4HO	Ryley Buckley
4IK	Lacie-Rae Birkett
4MC	Keeva Chidgey
4WK	Alexia Hicks & Freddie Styles
5BP	Ronnie Eskisan
5EW	Lexi-Lee Jones
5JN	Kayla-Mae Stace
5PS	Mia Butler
6CS	Sammy-Lee Chibnall
6KDO	Noah Hewson
6LS	Theo Walford
6SE	Lily-Mai Mears

Wishing everyone a happy and restful weekend.

With my best wishes



Melody Kingman
Headteacher

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