



Monday 21st September 2020

Newsletter Number 5 – Autumn Term 2020







Dear families,

What do I do if my child is ill or has Coronavirus?

In addition to the advice given in the last newsletter, Wirral has produced a very handy guide for families.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) ABSENCE: A quick guide for parents/carers

Keep.
Wirral.
Well.

What to do if...	Action needed	Return to school when...
 ...my child has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate ✓ Get a test ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	...the test comes back negative
 ...my child tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Self-isolate for at least 10 days ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	...they feel better. They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
 ...somebody in my household has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate ✓ Household member to get a test ✓ Inform school immediately about test result 	...the household member test is negative
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate for 14 days 	...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation
 ...NHS test and trace have identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or confirmed coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✗ Contact school ✗ Self-isolate for 14 days 	...the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation
 ...we/my child travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine	<p>Term time holidays, including absence as a result of needing to quarantine, are unauthorised.</p> <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Self-isolate for 14 days - even if a test is negative 	...the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed
 ...we have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Do not come to school ✓ Contact school ✓ Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	...school inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again
 ...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Only people with symptoms* need to get a test ✓ People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met

* Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Other New Restrictions

You will all be aware of the latest new restrictions in Wirral. From today all adults arriving and dropping off at all schools must wear a mask unless they are medically exempt.

From tomorrow additional measures are being introduced:

New regulations include:-

- *Residents must not socialise with other people outside of their own households or support bubble in private homes and gardens;*
- *Hospitality for food and drink will be restricted to table service only; and*
- *Late night operating hours will be restricted, with leisure and entertainment venues including restaurants, pubs, and cinemas, required to close between 10pm to 5am*

Significant pieces of guidance:-

- *Only use public transport for essential purposes, such as travelling to school or work*
- *Avoid attending amateur and semi-professional sporting events as spectators*

These new measures will be kept under constant review to reduce the spread of the virus and save lives.

In effect this will mean that families will need to carefully consider who drops off and collects their child/children from tomorrow. Asking a friend to do so, or a relative who isn't in your household or support bubble will go against the guidance and potentially put people at risk by spreading the virus.

Therefore the school staff are asking you to think about how you will keep **YOUR** family and **YOUR** school community safe by adhering to the guidance. Additionally, the school would be in a position where it would be responsible for reporting any known breach of this requirement to the authorities, so although this is a difficult situation we all must all follow what is required at this time.

A reminder of how to organise a COVID test

You can contact NHS through the website (see link below) or by calling NHS 119.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Latest update on School life...

School life has been lovely and continues to help our young children not only learn but to be with their friends and enjoy socialising.

Drop off and pick up times are now well paced, thank you for avoiding the busy times! Staff have reminded the children that the adult picking them up is not late if they don't arrive to collect them first!

We are working hard to deliver all aspects of the curriculum despite the restrictions of classroom layout and movement around the school. The children have enjoyed using their new sketchbooks and this week start a design and sewing unit in Design and Technology. Mrs Shaw is working with the children to do music lessons, which they thoroughly enjoy. A new addition to the History curriculum is 'Monarch of the Month' – this is a simple but enjoyable way to help the children get to know who the country's Monarchs were and how and when they lived. Ask your child who is this month's Monarch! Commando Joe is still

coming into school to deliver a variety of team building and fitness sessions which the children always enjoy.

Some sad news, Mr Davies is no longer working at Pensby. He has been travelling into school to and from Wales for several years now and this has been particularly challenging over the last few months. We are very sad to see him go and wish him happiness in the future.

PTA Zoom Meeting

The PTA Zoom meeting last week was very different but incredibly useful. I can only say what an amazing group of parents joined us, all determined that a Christmas season of events and fun would happen for your children! The PTA have thought carefully about the price of these events and the costs that would be associated with a normal Christmas event season. This year's events cost less than usual per child in total as a result of this thoughtful approach – thank you PTA!!

- The annual Halloween disco will be a Firework disco this year. This will take place on Wednesday 4th November 3.30 to 5.00pm for all classes. Each class will have its own bubble disco in the classroom with music piped through the PA system. The cost is £4.50 per child and includes sweets and drink so children do not need to bring any further money on the night.
- Christmas film night – This will go ahead in class bubbles on Thursday 3rd December 3.30 to 6.00pm. It will include hot dogs and chips for tea as well as some film snacks. The cost is £4.50 per child.
- Christmas Presents – The children will be able to buy a family Christmas present to give to their family on Christmas day. This will be a selection of sweets and chocolates gift wrapped and costs £4.50. They can purchase these in the week of 7th December.
- Class Christmas cards. Each class will be working on designing their own Christmas cards that their families can order. More information about this nearer the time.
- As we know we can't do a Christmas performance or Children's Christmas fair, the PTA wanted to do something very different and extra special, so we will be putting together our version of a Christmas lantern evening. This will be controlled so that family bubbles can attend together in allocated time slots, have a drink and some cake and then enjoy areas of the school set up in Christmas themes. During the evening Father Christmas will be in his grotto and will see the whole family and give gifts to the children. The lantern tour of the school will have many surprises, be very Christmassy and will put any other lantern tours to shame! Each child will make a lantern and will take this home after the event (£2.50 per child for the lantern). The cost of the evening event is - families up to four £8 and up to six £11. Lanterns to be made in school. The event will take place over 2 nights on 16th and 17th December. More information on how to book your family slot will be sent home nearer the time.
- School lottery – we have our own school lottery that is very popular and easy to sign up to. It's the quickest and easiest way to support the schools, especially if you work and can't get into school for events readily. Details to sign up can be found on the school lottery website by following this link;

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/pensby-primary-school>

Tickets cost just £1 a week per ticket and there are many chances to win prizes. This month there is the opportunity to win tickets to the Harry Potter Studio tour (see poster below).



Parent/carer evenings

This term we want to give families the opportunity to meet with class teachers as we usually would, but we have to do so following Coronavirus guidelines. To achieve this, in the week before half term the teachers will message each child's family on Seesaw detailing how their child has settled back into school. After half term, over a 3 weeks period, families will be invited to book a phone call slot with their child's class teacher. The times on offer will be 8.30am to 9.00am and 3.00pm to 3.30pm and for one night each week they will be 3.00 to 5.00pm. These times will go on Parent Mail for you to book before half term and we will let you know when they are ready. Obviously we would have much preferred to meet face to face but hope this will method will still be useful in the circumstances.

Car bumper stickers

Last year our 6 Federation schools held a competition to design a car bumper sticker to encourage careful parking around our school sites. Each school had their own winner and our school winner was Chloe in year 6 – well done, Chloe! The overall prize was shared by Irby and Gayton and these winning stickers have now been made and each family in the 6 schools will receive one this week. Please pop it on your car bumper and spread the message to park carefully!

Keep safe, keep well,

Mrs. K Brown, Headteacher