



Monday, 06 December 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

We are approaching the end of the term and the classes are finalising their end of term presentations to parents to showcase what the children have been learning this term. These will be sent out to you during the last week of term via the Arbor app or email.

Unfortunately during the last week Covid-19 is very much high on everyone's agenda once again. I am writing to you to outline what we can all do as a community to protect one another.

The number of confirmed cases in school is still very low and the updated risk assessment can be found on our school website.

As you will be aware, currently children do not need to isolate if they have been a close contact to anyone who tests positive for Covid-19 unless they live in the same household. If someone in the same household tests positive then we will be asking you take your child for a PCR test, isolate until the results are in and if negative, they can return to school. The advice is also that adults in the household or children of secondary school age, who test negative on a PCR but have been a close contact, take a daily lateral flow test. This also applies to anyone who is double vaccinated.

At present, we understand that the new variant has currently changed the isolation rules and could potentially cause a lot of disruption for our school and the children, families, and staff within it. Anyone who is identified as a close contact to someone who tests positive for Covid-19 Omicron variant will have to isolate for 10 days regardless of age or vaccination status.

The following actions will help our school community:

Face coverings:

We ask that all visitors wear face coverings when entering our school – if you are exempt then please wear a lanyard to indicate this. Staff are wearing masks in communal areas where they cannot socially distance.

Symptoms:

Be extra vigilant on monitoring your child for any symptoms of Covid-19 (cough, high temperature, loss of sense of smell or taste) and seek a PCR test if your child displays these symptoms. Please be considerate of the fact that we are also being extra vigilant and if we contact you to ask you to collect your child and get them a PCR test please remember that we are following government guidance. Anyone with symptoms, however mild, must isolate at home until the results of a PCR test are known.

Lateral flow tests:

The guidance for schools asks that all secondary age students and all school staff take part in lateral flow tests twice a week. The staff in school are taking part in these tests and it has enabled us to quickly identify Covid-19 cases - some of which have been asymptomatic. They can be ordered from the NHS website.

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateralflow-tests>.

Home Learning:

Please be reminded that if your child is self-isolating due to Covid that all home learning is updated weekly on our school website for your child to complete (If they are well enough to do so). The link to this is

<https://www.redwellprimary.org.uk/teaching-learning/home-learning>

If we can continue to work together we can help to ensure cases in our school remain low.



Year EYFS/Year 1 Christmas Performances:

We ask that all visitors take a lateral flow test the day of the performance and to wear a mask unless you are exempt – please wear a lanyard to indicate this if possible.

Year R - Monday 13th December at 9.30am or Tuesday 14th December at 2.30pm

Year 1 – Monday 13th December at 2.30pm or Tuesday 14th December at 9.30am

This will be limited to one adult per child per event and masks are to be worn at all times. We will be sending out a link on the Arbor parent app to sign up if you wish to attend or a family member wishes to attend. We will continue to update you if there are any changes due to Covid restrictions. We are also advising that **no photographs or videos will be allowed** during the performances as we have children who cannot be photographed for safeguarding reasons. Due to this, we are recording the performances for you and will send you a copy after the 14th December as the children who cannot be photographed will be exempt from the recordings. Performances will be held in the Sports Hall. **Please enter via the Sports Hall gate – the gate will open automatically when you are able to enter the building/sign in.**

Parent Council and RHH launch – One last plea!

Due to the limited number of applicants for the parent council role, we have decided to relaunch both the Redwell Helping Hands (PTA) and the parent council as a joint role. The new name will be 'Friends of Redwell Primary School'. Thank you to those who have applied to join the group. However we are still very short of volunteers. If you are able to help us even with school fundraising events please email the office office@redwellprimary.co.uk.

Sensory Garden:

Glenvale Park will be partnering with Redwell Primary School to support our Sensory garden. They will be repainting the fencing and helping with some maintenance work before Christmas. They will return in the spring to carry out some seed bomb planting and further maintenance when the weather is a little warmer.

FSM vouchers for Christmas break:

Those who are entitled to the vouchers will be contacted by the school before the Christmas break.

Forthcoming Dates:

Christmas Jumper day – Friday 10th December 2021 (£1 donations to Save the children via Arbor app)

Fresh Start Christmas lunch– Tuesday 14th December 2021

Years 1, 3, 5 Pantomime visit – Wednesday 15th December 2021

Years 2, 4, 6 Pantomime visit – Thursday 16th December 2021

Last day of term – Friday 17th December 2021

Spring 1 Term – Reopen to pupils – Tuesday 4th January 2022

Staff News:

Finally, we welcome Sharon Perks who has been appointed as a Receptionist for the front office and Justin Maling who has been appointed as our Senior Site Supervisor.

This will be the last letter for this term and due to this I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you once again for your continued support. If you do have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to contact me at head@redwellprimary.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Head - Principal