



Dear parent/carer,

### **Update for 17/03/20**

#### **Following the latest guidance from the Government:**

- if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started
- if you live with others and you or another member of the household have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
- for anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.

To help reassure you we have introduced with immediate effect the below measures:

- Teachers/TAs are talking to the children in an age appropriate way about the Coronavirus focusing on the importance of washing hands using the latest NHS information
- We are focusing on the regular/extra cleaning of all key contact areas such as door handles, tables, equipment etc.
- Children are being asked to wash their hands at least 5 times a day as a minimum – as they arrive at school, before morning snack/break time, before lunch, afternoon break time and before coming home
- We have postponed all events to avoid extra visitors
- We are cancelling all non-essential visitors to the school
- After school dance and choir clubs will continue but staff are considering individual reasonable adjustments that can be made for each club – please note that clubs scheduled next week (week beginning 23.3.20) will revert to their usual day. They were scheduled to adjust due to parents' evenings, but with these cancelled, clubs can now operate on their usual days.
- Gardening club will finish this evening. Missed sessions will be made up once we return to normal.

In order to support staff we have:

- Cancelled all non-urgent meetings, gatherings and visits out of school
- Staff in vulnerable groups will not be in school or have limited contact

We ask that you support the school by:

- Not sending your child in if they have any of the following symptoms – cough, sore throat, high temperature or shortness of breath
- If your child has underlying health conditions please consider carefully if they should be at school at present
- Ensuring children wash their hands before school and as soon as they are home
- Ensure that school has all up to date contact information

- In order to protect frontline staff, only come into the main school reception if you have an urgent query and consider emailing staff

#### School closure information

The latest DFE update (17.3.20) states;

The current medical and scientific advice is for schools and other educational establishments to stay open. If this changes and the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Adviser say closing schools, colleges, and early years settings is in the best interests of children and teachers the Department will take that step.

If, the Government do chose to enforce closures on all schools in the future we will:

- provide an age related pack of homework suggestions for each child
- Mrs Hanson, class teachers and the office will be checking their email on a daily basis during term time and can therefore respond to any queries or concerns that you may have
- Staff will be regularly updating the school website in the 'Learning Zone'. We will post home learning suggestions and activities and will alert you with a text message along with the daily DFE guidance for schools and families.

Please note our 'decorate an egg' competition is cancelled but if you have already made your egg bring it in now for us to celebrate and display.

Can I just say a massive thank you to our wonderful parent community for all your support, kind words and patience and understanding in these difficult circumstances. You are wonderful!

Kind regards,

Kay Hanson, Headteacher

#### Message from PTFA:

*Thank you all for your kind donations for the chocolate bingo. Due to the chocolate bingo being cancelled next week, we have decided to donate the eggs to the local food bank.*

*If you would prefer to collect your donation back you are welcome or if you have already purchased eggs to donate please send them into school with your child as they would be appreciated at the food bank. Many Thanks for your ongoing support from the PTFA.*