Ardeley St Lawrence C of E Primary School

**Newsletter**

 26th February 2020

Dear Parents

**Good news…**

In fact, the news we have all been waiting for!! We are so looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school on the 8 March. I will be in touch next week with more details; as always please do check your emails.

Staff have chosen a ‘Star of the Week’ each, recognising the immense effort being put in by the children at home and at school; we are so proud of you! Miss Mullins will email you a certificate you can print out and fill in.

This week’s stars are: Arthur, Eden, Eliza, Molly and Ewan, and I explain why in my recorded assembly.

Our ‘end of half term’ zoom disco was a great success – I hope all the children enjoyed it as much as I did! We are continuing our zoom calls next week, hopefully for the last time; as much as we love them it will be so nice to see the children in person instead!

**Back to school systems…**

We will be continuing with the systems and processes that we had in place in the Autumn Term. I will send reminders of these next week but the main points are:
We will only operate a drop off system in the morning with the same extended time from 8.45 to 9.10am.

We will still operate 2 bubbles and children will have access to the normal school lunches in 2 sittings, as before.

Collection will be from the playground, as before, between 3 and 3.20pm. Please help us all by not gathering during or after collection and leaving straight away.

Parents are still not allowed on site at other times; please contact the office if you need to speak with your child’s teacher.

I have been working throughout on extra precautions that we can take in school, to continue to make Ardeley school as safe as possible. We have Co2 monitors in all classes; these monitor the quality of the air and let staff know when it is time to ‘refresh’ the air or open/close windows. In addition to this we now have air purifiers in the classrooms with HEPA filters.

**Uniform…**

I know children have grown and most shops are closed! In addition, on the return to the classroom, windows will still be open for ventilation.

Therefore, until Easter (and longer if necessary) we will be continuing our relaxed uniform policy. Children do need to wear clothes in the basic school colours and with no big logos please, however the following will also be acceptable:

Black or grey leggings or joggers

Black or grey jumpers or cardigans
White tops, t shirts – long or short sleeved but with minimal decoration please.

An additional layer or fleece can be sent into school for wearing in class if it is cold.

Children will still need wellingtons and should wear solid shoes, although again we understand these may not be in usual school colours/materials. Uniform for PE is similarly relaxed – please remember layers are still important.

**Testing and symptoms…**

Staff have been starting the twice weekly ‘Lateral Flow Test’, carried out at home. These tests give a result within 30 minutes and are designed to pick up people who may have the virus but not showing any symptoms. They are already in use in the NHS and care homes. If a test returns positive we will then track close contacts and close a bubble as before. This will continue on our return.

As before please DO NOT send your child to school if they or ANY member of your family have the symptoms of Coronavirus (temperature, cough, loss of taste/smell) and advise us immediately. Please also remember to inform us of any follow up positive test results (LFT or PCR). Please email covid@ardeley.herts.sch.uk or call the office.

 **Rota…**

Please ensure that children have trainers that they can do up themselves for PE days please.

Children are often outside for an entire morning or afternoon – **please ensure they now wear joggers rather than shorts on these days as the weather is still chilly!**

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| **Week A** - 8 – 12 March |
| Tuesday – Forest School Session | Thursday - PE |
| UKS2 (1 hr) | KS1 | LKS2 | UKS2 |

**Finally…**

It feels like we have a plan…a hope…that we can be with our families and friends in the not to distant future…

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me." (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

With all my best wishes,

Mrs Connolly