



## Weekly Newsletter – Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### Message from the Headteacher

#### Welcome

The children have all settled back into school well and are enjoying being back with their classmates. Thank you for supporting them with their school uniform – they look very smart. It is that time of year when the children benefit from having hats, scarves and gloves. Please be reminded that some PE lessons will continue to be held outside so children should have warm clothing, e.g. joggers, to wear outside.

#### New Beginnings

As the new calendar year begins it is a good time for us all to reflect on what has happened in the last twelve months and to look ahead to our aspirations for the new year. As we enter the third year of Covid-19 it is ever more important to focus on those elements of life which give us joy. Living and/or working with children gives us all so much pleasure. It is a privilege to be able to see them grow and develop; childhood passes so quickly and every moment is precious. We will continue to do all that we can to provide the children with worthy and memorable experiences at school as I am sure you will at home.

#### Baby News

I am happy to announce that Mrs Fairhurst, Class 4 Teacher, is expecting a baby. She is due to commence her maternity leave towards the end of term 5. We all wish her and her family well at this exciting time. I will write to Year 4 parent/carers with regards staffing for the rest of the year when the arrangements are confirmed.

#### Reception Class 2022

We continue to welcome prospective new families who have children due to start school in September 2022. Please do spread the word to friends and families and invite parent/carers to contact the school office to make an appointment to view the school. Applications for places in the new class need to be made to the local authority at [www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places](http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places) by 17<sup>th</sup> January.

#### Additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

In acknowledgement of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which falls in the school half term holiday in June, the DfE have laid regulations to reduce the minimum number of sessions that schools are required to meet in the academic year 2021/2022.

Subsequently, following a consultation, the Cabinet Member for Education in Kent has taken the decision to end the Summer term 2022 a day early so that term finishes on Thursday 21st July 2022 instead of Friday 22nd July 2022.

Please note this updated information with regards to the end of the school year. School will finish for all pupils on **Thursday 21st July 2022 at 2pm**.

I wish you all a good weekend.

Helen Comfort

### Message from Class R

Class R have had a great start to Term 3.

They started the term by learning about the artist Kandinsky. Here is a sample of some of the art work that the children have produced based on the work of 'Circles in a Circle'.

Our topic this term is 'Ticket to Ride'. The children have been building rockets in our outdoor area and made binoculars. We have also listened to the story 'How to Catch a Star'.

Mrs Collins





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### Star Awards

w/e 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Class 1 – Madison

Class 2 – Annabelle

Class 3 – Kieran

Class 4 – Henry

Class 5 – Rosa

Class 6 – Jack Fd



### Coronavirus Symptoms

#### Updated Guidance

From 11 January in England, people without symptoms who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Anyone who develops 1 of the 3 main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and get a PCR test (see below). They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed.

Children or staff with any of the three symptoms of Covid:

- a new continuous cough;
- a fever;
- a change in taste or smell

are to stay at home and isolate. They should get a PCR Covid test.

To get a test go online to:

[nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://nhs.uk/coronavirus) OR

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> OR

Telephone 111

#### Changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

#### Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

#### Keeping School Informed

If your child tests positive for Covid you must inform the school – by telephone on 01304 852639 during the school day. If your child tests positive 'out of hours' we do not need to know until the morning of the first day of absence – as with all sickness absence.

### Reception Class 2022

Applications opened for Reception Class September 2022 on **Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> November**. If you have a child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 you can apply online for a place through the Kent County Council website:-

[www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places](http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places).

Applications close on **17<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

### Birthdays

**Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their birthday in January.**

Albie	Year 01
Jensen	Year 06
Elliot	Year 05
Joseph	Year 05
Nathan	Year 06
Bella	Year 02
Harry	Year 06
Adam	Year 0R
Rory	Year 03
Isabelle	Year 01
Bertie	Year 06
Renon	Year 05
Reagan	Year 05



### The Week Ahead!

**Week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Lunch Menu – Week 2**

