

WELFORD ON AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 8

12/11/2021

Dear Parents,

Just when we think we are turning a corner with regards to the pandemic, things take a turn for the worse. We have had another surge in school COVID cases this week, with Year 3 returning to remote learning until Monday and several cases in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. Thank you to all the parents who have read the letters from school and taken the appropriate action by testing their child.

Without testing, we run the risk of being overrun with cases in school, which not only affects pupils but also staff. Without teachers, we cannot run a school, even remotely. **I urge parents to continue to test their children twice a week in line with staff testing, to stand any chance of being able to operate a school setting.**

Assemblies

We need to return to remote assemblies, due to the rise in COVID cases, which is very disappointing for all. We are still hoping to welcome parents back into school for our upcoming Christmas concerts.

Thursday 18 th November	Year 3/Year 6 Wright
Thursday 25 th November	Year 2/5 Owen
Thursday 2 nd December	Reception Higgs Assembly
Wednesday 8 th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Assembly/Concert @ 9.15am
Thursday 9 th December	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Assembly/Concert @ 9.15am
Monday 13 th December	Nursery Christmas Assembly/Concert @ 9.15am
Tuesday 14 th December	Reception Christmas Assembly/Concert@ 9.15am
Wednesday 15 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Assembly/Concert @ 9.15am

Friday 17th December
Christmas Dress Up Day
School closes at 1.30pm

**Whole School Christmas End of Term Celebration
(Staff and Pupils only)**

Year 1 and Year 4 Davenport Assembly

Year 1 shared their learning this week, teaching us the 'Parliament Alphabet', part of their studies around UK Parliament Week. 'A' stands for Acts which are passed as law in parliament, B stands for Big Ben and C for the House of Commons where our MPs sit on those very famous green benches. Year 1 also have been collecting and sorting litter ready to be recycled to help protect our local environment.

Year 4 Davenport explained the process of a debating, with the class holding a Parliament style debate on whether children should have the right to vote. After both sides had presented their argument, the yes vote won by an overwhelming majority of 28 votes to 4. A wonderful experience of demonstrating your right to have an opinion and viewpoint. Excellent life skills.

UK Parliament Week

UK Parliament Week took place across the UK schools last week, which was a great opportunity for our pupils to develop an understanding about how our Parliament works. For many pupils it has inspired an interest in Parliament, politics and democracy and an understanding of the UK's democratic system and institutions.

Additional information can be found by following:

https://assets.ukparliamentweek.org/uploads/2021/11/UKPW2021_PrimarySchoolsBooklet_AW_DIGITAL_SPREADS.pdf

Watch the introduction school assembly which is really informative and interesting.

<https://www.ukparliamentweek.org/en/resources/ukpw-big-assembly-primary-school-edition/>

COP26

All classes have continued to follow the progress of the COP26 talks currently being held in Glasgow. Our pupils have really engaged with the event, feeling they have a role and a responsibility to help with the changes. Many have written letters to MPs and requests have been made for simple changes around the school, such as more recycling bins, using less paper, switching off lights to conserve energy and turning off taps correctly. It has been

refreshing to see the pupils' enthusiasm around the important issue of Climate Change and the role they have to take to help make the changes needed to protect our future world.

Today, we marked the end of COP26 and the beginning of our school pledge to do our bit for Climate Change, by holding assemblies to share work and ideas.

Year 4 – Year 6 welcomed parent, Governor and District Councillor Manuela Perteghella. Each class shared their COP26 work, Manuela explained her job and how District and Local Councils are elected and the work they do. She invited pupils to write or submit a video to the Climate Change Panel based at Elizabeth House in Stratford, to share initiatives and projects. I have a feeling they are going to be inundated over the next few weeks.

Climate Council

We are planning to form our own Climate Council and the interest in this new group has been phenomenal. We marked the end of the COP26 conference by wearing something green to school today.

If you are interested in helping out with our Climate Council please contact the school and get involved in this crucial cause.



Remembrance Day -Thursday 11th November

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 held a remote assembly to mark this important event while Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 walked up to the Village Memorial Hall to take part in the service. We are so honoured, not only to be invited to this event every year, but to play a role in it. Our Year 6 pupils laid the wreath and read their poems, which they had composed while Year 5 read out the Roll of Honour of all those young men from the village who had lost their lives. All year groups had attached a poppy to the railing outside the hall and Year 5 and 6 have displayed all their poetry. Year 4 had made coloured poppies and placed them on the village Maypole Green.

The meaning of each colour:

Red poppy: Memorial to World War One and following conflicts

Purple poppy: To remember animal victims of war

Black poppy: Remembering the contribution of African, black and Caribbean communities

White poppy: Remembering people who died in conflict with a focus on an end to war

'Anti Bullying' Week 15th - 19th November

'Anti-Bullying Week' takes place next week and the theme is 'One Kind Word'

We will be talking about the important topic of 'Anti-Bullying' with all pupils and completing work in class. Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. Each child will be encouraged to show little acts of consideration. These small simple acts can break down barriers and brighten the lives of everyone around us.

Upcoming events

Cinema Night – Friday 19th November (Reception to Year 6)- Postponed due to rise in COVID cases

Children in Need - Friday 19th November.

We will once again be supporting this national event. 'Children in Need' first started in 1980 and has been firmly marked on all our calendars ever since, because it really does make a difference to children's lives through the money raised. All pupils are asked to wear something spotty or stripy and classes will be planning a day of 'Children in Need' fun activities which will be sure to be fun. In return, we ask for a small donation of £1.00 which will go to help the lives of young people in the UK. You can find out more about Children in Need by following the link below.

<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/schools/primary-school/>

Welford Wrigglers

Our next session is next Wednesday 17th November, starting at 9.15am and finishing at 11.15am. Please share this information with parents who may wish to attend this group.

Open Mornings

Thank you to everyone who attended our Reception Open Morning on Monday. If you know of anyone who missed this event, but would like to consider a place for their child in Reception, please encourage them to contact the school.

Remote Learning

If your child is off for any reason connected to COVID19 and is fit to learn, then they can join the class via Teams and receive their lesson live from the classroom. It works well and ensures that teaching and learning is not missed. Once you have phoned the school to report your child's absence, you should then send a message to your child's teacher via Teams to request an invite to class. You should be able to join through your class Teams page.

Wellness @Welford

Family Information Newsletter

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=2144656ff8>

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter, there is information on the annual Anti-Bullying Week, Brake Road Safety Week, how to get involved with the Wilder Wellness project and much more!

Family Lives

www.familylives.org.uk/

'Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service for families in England (previously known as Parentline). Please call us on 0808 800 2222 for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life'

The helpline service is open 9am – 9pm, Monday to Friday and 10am – 3pm Saturday and Sunday.

At some stage in our lives we all need support so do not be afraid to reach out and ask.

Free Parenting Programmes available free to Warwickshire families

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-829341009-253>

Link for parents to book onto workshops and programmes:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-children-and-families-17595309993>

COVID Update

We do need to understand that COVID is something we have to learn to live with and manage and certainly we do not want to close classrooms and interrupt learning. It is vitally important that we continue to do our part to keep our school safe and open and protect our school community. To avoid further closures we are asking:

- that all members of your households continue to test twice a week.
- If any member of your family has tested positive for COVID19, **it is important** that you let the school know.
- While you have someone in the household with COVID you should follow guidelines about the rest of the family completing a PCR. However, it may well be that the PCR comes back negative and someone becomes infected a few days later.
- We highly recommend that you continue to LTF every day, while there is someone with COVID in the household. Other members of the family may be asymptomatic or have mild illness. **By continuing to regularly test, we reduce the risk of transferring COVID into the school.**
- While you have COVID in your household, we ask that you test your child every day so that if they have a negative test they can safely come to school.
- If your child is returning to school after a period of absence due to COVID (after isolation test or waiting on a result), it is absolutely essential that you ring the school to have a reintegration conversation.
- The isolation period must be completed

All the measures above ensure that we can protect our school population (staff and pupils), reduce further risk of school closure and make sure that the education of our pupils is not interrupted for a third year running.

Any questions, regarding these guidelines please contact the school.

VERY IMPORTANT

If your child is ill and shows any symptoms (even if they are mild) of COVID19 then they must not come into school and should stay at home until they have completed a PCR test. **However, if your child is a close contact of someone with COVID then they no longer need to isolate unless contacted by the NHS Trace and Trace and told to do so.** However, it is recommended that they carry out regular Rapid response tests while someone in the house is infected.

Ordering Tests:

Follow this link to order Rapid Response Tests of LFTs

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

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Leeman and Staff