

TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 3RD MARCH 2021



Five days and counting...

Can you believe it is March already? The news at last, is more positive with numbers of Covid cases gradually decreasing, vaccinations increasing and it will hopefully not be too long before we will be able to meet up with friends and family again. We are looking ahead to springtime, and, brighter days in every sense. I do hope that you have been enjoying the lovely weather that we have been having recently. It is amazing what sunshine and blue sky can do to aid positivity and improve wellbeing. Let's just hope that this beautiful weather stays with us!

We are genuinely excited and so looking forward to welcoming all our children back to school from next Monday 8th March. Five days and counting! To have our school community reunited for the first time since 4th January 2021 will certainly be very special.

Since January, I have thanked parents and children for all their hard work at home in nearly every weekly newsletter. This week, I thank you in advance for what will hopefully be the last few days of remote learning. So, thank you for the time,

effort and dedication you have given to support learning at home. We know at times it has been challenging. You are all phenomenal!

As parents and carers you can now hopefully look forward to some level of resumed normality regarding the education of your children. Teachers will focus initially on settling the children back into school, ensuring that they are happy and secure. We will provide opportunities for play, collaboration, physical exercise and utilise our outdoor space as much as possible. We will prioritise identifying gaps and re-establishing good progress in phonics, reading, writing and mathematics. Our curriculum will remain broad and ambitious, with lots of wonderful cross-curricular learning. What some of the children at home may have lost is their willingness to be independent and the ability to problem-solve for themselves, as well as their stamina for sustained learning. Some children may be unsure at losing their 1:1 adult (you), having to work with others and remembering how to compromise. We will do all that we can to ensure that the children continue to develop these essential skills for learning.

As a school, we should be so proud of what we have achieved in unbelievably difficult circumstances. It has been a real testament to Templemoor as a community in the way that we have all pulled together to help and support one another. I really do look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 8th March.

With very best wishes,

Mr Hodgson - Headteacher



Re-opening of School

You should have received a detailed letter via email, containing important information about the wider re-opening of school from 8th March. This letter can also be found via the following [link](#). Up until at least the Easter holidays we will be implementing the stringent measures that were in place during the autumn term. This is following government guidance to keep us all safe. As the government has made clear, we are still in the midst of a pandemic and restrictions must remain in place until further notice. Everyone in our school community has worked so hard to keep one another safe. Thank you for maintaining your commitment to this, despite the challenges of having to do so for such a prolonged period of time.

Lateral Flow Tests for Households

The government are now providing lateral flow testing kits to households, childcare and support bubbles of primary age pupils. About 1 in 3 people with Coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the virus spreading and protect loved ones. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease we all need to play our part to help protect each other. From 1st March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test via:

- your employer if they offer testing to employees.
- at a local test site.

- by collecting a home test kit from a test site (You can collect up to 2 home test kits at a local collection point. Each kit contains 7 tests. You can check online if the location is busy before you go. Click on the following [link](#) to see where your nearest test site is.
- by ordering a home test kit online (This online service is available via the following [link](#)).

If you would like further information about lateral flow testing then please get in touch.

School Meals

If you haven't already done so, then please **log into your ParentPay account as soon as possible** to pre-order your child's meals for the rest of term. This will enable our cook to prepare and re-stock food items. If you had previously booked meals for these dates, you will need to re-order as the menu will start from Week 1 on our return. If you have any questions or need help with ParentPay, please contact the school office and we will be happy to help.

Rights Respecting Article of the Week

This week we are thinking about Article 28 - that 'every child has the right to education'. Click [here](#) to listen to Mrs Brown talking about Article 28. We would love to see any work, videos, photographs, posters or pictures on Seesaw that are all about this very important Article.

Reading/ Phonic and Library Books

We are requesting that we have a book amnesty and drop **ALL** books at school for the final time on **Friday 5th March**. Thank you for your continued support. Times are listed below:

Year Group	Friday
Reception	10am to 11am
Year 1	11am to 12pm
Year 2	1:30pm to 2:30pm



Wearing Face Masks on Site

All parents and carers should wear a face mask whilst on the school site. Children are not required to wear face masks. Staff will also wear face masks in communal areas of school. They will wear face visors whilst at the classroom door during drop off and pick up times, and may wear them in class too. Please help us to keep everyone safe with social distancing measures, keeping your distance at the classroom door, following the one way in/ out system. Please also ensure that only 1 adult brings or collects their child or children. Thank you for your continued support.

World Book Day 2021

World Book Day will take place on Thursday 4th March 2021. To celebrate World Book Day we would like everyone to do lots of reading and listening to stories. There are lots of stories to listen to on our [Templemoor YouTube Channel](#)! Children are also asked to make a little reading den, or find themselves an unusual or funny place to read or listen to a story (following Covid rules) - please capture their space or place with a photograph and send it to Seesaw by Friday 5th March. There will be a prize for each class for the most unusual/ creative space or place. A £1 book token has been emailed to all parents that can be swapped for one of many exclusive, new and completely free World Book Day books available from participating booksellers or used to get £1 off any full price book or audiobook instead. Tokens are valid from Thursday 18th February - Sunday 28th March 2021. In 2021 participating booksellers will honour

the tokens beyond 28th March while stocks last. Happy reading everyone!

Staying Safe

Please do not send your child in to school if they develop Covid-19 symptoms:

- A raised temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to the sense of smell or taste

Children may return to school once a negative test has been obtained or after 10 days from the onset of symptoms. Children should also not come to school if:

- They have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for Covid-19.
- Anyone in their household or support or childcare bubble develops symptoms of Covid-19.
- They have been advised to isolate by NHS test and trace or the PHE local health protection team, which is a legal obligation

Wellbeing

The Covid-19 pandemic brings big challenges for our mental health, whether you're isolating at home or trying to live with the national restrictions. 10 Days of Happiness is a free 10-day online coaching program which guides you through daily actions for happier living. This program can help you cope and find a little more happiness in these difficult times. A link to the coaching program can be found [here](#).



Weekly Newsletter

As we return to school, this will be the last weekly newsletter for a while. We will go back to producing monthly newsletters, the next one being at the end of March. We do hope that the weekly newsletter has helped to keep in touch as a whole school community.

Golden Book and end of week message

Do tune in on Friday to see the final instalment of the learning powers adventures in a very special end of week message/ Golden Book. There may even be a few surprises!

Science Week

It is fantastic to see all of the super science work that is taking place at home on Seesaw - from making milk and raisins dance to making a fountain and dissolving solids to name just a few! If you haven't done so already, do try to take the time to look at the science teaching videos and powerpoints that have been produced by Mrs Leigh and Mrs Ree. It would be amazing if your child could have a go at some of the experiments. Please continue to take as many photos/videos as you can and send them in to Seesaw. Happy investigating Templemoor!

And finally...

I would just like to finish this very last weekly newsletter with some final thank yous.

I would like to thank the Templemoor team for working incredibly hard. The additional workload that this situation has presented has been immense - altering our curriculum input, adapting resources for remote learning, providing quality feedback to those children at home, preparing reading materials, lateral flow testing for staff (and the associated training), more reports back to the Government, Local Authority and Public Health England than you can imagine to name but a few. The nature of the people who work in schools means that they are always putting children first. So thank you team, you are all simply amazing.

Parents - you have had to become teachers, turning homes into classrooms, to continue your child's learning. Children have had to adapt to being away from their friends and extended family once again. They have had to adapt to remote learning, and some have had to adapt to the 'new normal' in school, bringing with them their smiles and laughter. This has not been easy at all. Huge sacrifices have been made to ensure we protect ourselves and other people. So, thank you.

Whatever the circumstances of the coming weeks, we look forward to capturing the wonderful Templemoor Infant and Nursery team spirit as we find our way through these times together.

So, lovely parents and carers - grit your teeth... and hang on in there - everything is going to be OK - it really is. Just five days to go - we can all do this! Stay positive and keep smiling and we will see you all again on Monday 8th March. Hurrah!

Mr Hodgson and the Templemoor Team



Spring Term 2021

Opens	Monday 4th January 2021
Closes	Friday 12th February 2021
Opens	Monday 22nd February 2021
Closes	Thursday 1st April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Opens	Monday 19th April 2021
Bank Holiday Monday (School is closed)	Monday 3rd May 2021
Closes	Friday 28th May 2021
Opens	Monday 14th June 2021
Closes	Friday 23rd July 2021