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Dear Parents

It was good to see in the news today that the UKs R number has dropped, suggesting that the current lockdown is working.

I wanted to write and update you about a development in the government's response to the COVID 19 pandemic and highlight the possible implications for your family in the coming weeks.

Up to one in three people who have the virus have it without symptoms (they are asymptomatic) so could be spreading the disease unknowingly. Therefore, from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January the Department for Education are introducing asymptomatic testing for all staff working in schools.

These tests will be carried out twice weekly so that any members of staff who may be carrying the virus can be identified and asked to isolate in order to control the spread of the virus.

Staff at our school will be asked to test each Sunday and Wednesday evening. Any staff who receive a positive result will be required to self-isolate. This means that the bubble which they are part of may also have to close for a ten-day period.

This has implications for every family currently attending school, as you will need to have short-notice childcare options in place in the event that you receive a message stating that your child's bubble has closed. If this happens, we will endeavour to get this message to you by 8.30pm.

I understand that this is yet another complication in an already difficult situation for us all but I sincerely hope that this development will help to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission.

This will hopefully mean that the normal life we all crave is just that little bit closer to returning.

As always if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Lamb

It was lovely to see the sun today at long last although it has been lovely watching some of the little ones having fun splashing in the puddles in their wellies! The mornings and evenings are feeling a little lighter and brighter.

It was also lovely to see some of you on my rounds this week! We have managed to get most learning packs delivered out to families and will get the last remaining few out next week.

Please make sure the office has up to date contact and address details. We've had a few puzzled looks when we've been knocking on doors!

Thanks

Mrs Lamb

## Technology

Many thanks to those of you who completed our Home Learning survey. We have been able to offer a loan of a school laptop or iPad to a number of families.

We know from the survey that 30% of those who responded are sharing devices at home between siblings and parents. We do have a small number of devices left. If anyone is struggling, please do get in touch.



Again it is yellow class with the most points overall this week, wow you all must be working super hard!

Well done to Hania Pervez and Sahib Singh Dhaliwal for gaining the most points this week.



Jemima Bond and Isabel Gent are sitting in the top two with Rock Legend status, well done to both of you. Very close behind are Millie Anderson and Elizabeth Muldoon-Smith with Rock Star status, which is also so impressive. Keep up the good work everyone!

Ms Gasper



## Healthy School

It can be really hard at the moment to get our children outside for a bout of fresh air when we can only stay local and when the weather is poor, but it's so beneficial for our physical and mental health. However, there are ways in which we can try to encourage our children outside and make a local walk fun. Over the next few weeks I'll share some tips as reminders or for activities that you may not have thought of.

While it's still getting dark fairly early, how about wrapping up warm and going on a 'night' walk. You could take glow sticks or torches to light up objects or natural materials in a different way or even just for your child to lead the way. On a clear moonlit night, can you spot your shadows? Look at the moon through binoculars and spot the stars and satellites from a darker, open space. Dusk is a great time to spot or hear wildlife. The robin is particularly noisy at this time, as are the jackdaws and there are some great starling displays over the reed beds at the bottom of Great Park. Make it even more special by taking a warm drink and a snack.

Have fun! Mrs Wells



Our Oxford reading buddy this week is **Jacob Mancini**, well done!

## Covid Related Pupil Absence Guide

	Scenario	Action required
1	<p>My child has COVID-19 symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>High temperature</b></li> <li>• <b>New continuous Cough</b></li> <li>• <b>Loss or change to sense of smell or taste</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>Book a test <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/</a></p> <p>Self-isolate everyone in your household while you wait for the test result.</p>
2	The test result is negative	<p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>If well enough, your child can return to school on the following day (or the same day if possible).</p>
3	The test result is positive	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Everyone in your household must self-isolate for 10 days. The person who has a positive test must self-isolate for 10 days or until they are well (we will authorise 10 days self-isolation absence as we understand the practical difficulties in getting your children to school if you are self-isolating for 10 days)</p>
4	My child is unwell with non COVID-19 related symptoms	Follow the usual school absence procedures.
5	Someone in my household has COVID symptoms	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>Book a test <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/</a></p> <p>Self-isolate everyone in your household while you wait for the test result.</p>
6	Someone in my household has tested positive for COVID-19	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>Self-isolate everyone in your household for 10 days.</p> <p>The person who has tested positive must self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms.</p>
7	NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as being in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 <b>or</b> I know that my child has had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>Your child will have to self-isolate for 10 days. Other members of your household do not need to self-isolate. If your child develops symptoms in the self-isolation period, follow the advice for scenario 1. If another member of the household develops symptoms, follow the advice for scenario 5.</p>

8	We are returning from travel to a country where a period of quarantine is necessary.	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Follow advice regarding the need to quarantine <a href="https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice">https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice</a> and how to quarantine <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk</a></p> <p>Ring school immediately so that we are aware and so that we can agree a return to school date.</p>
9	We have received medical advice that my child needs to resume shielding	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Ring school immediately.</p> <p>Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.</p>
10	My child's school bubble has been told to self-isolate.	<p><b>DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL</b></p> <p>School will contact you to share the advice from Public Health England and to inform you of a return to school date and arrangements for remote learning.</p>

