



# South Gosforth First School

*'Roots to grow and wings to fly'*

30.09.20

Dear Parents & Carers

As you are all aware, our Year 3 pupils are currently self-isolating at home after we had one positive case of COVID-19 reported on Friday last week. I just wanted to let our whole school community know what we have done since then to minimise risks if we get any more positive cases in school.

Like most schools across the country, due to lack of staffing, we had to organise our children in to Year Group 'bubbles'. Due to the nature of provision and 'busy play', this is still the case in Reception and Year 1, however, I have made the decision to move some of the staff around and temporarily appoint a new teaching assistant to enable Year 2, 3 and 4 to be in 'single class bubbles', which would mean that only one class would have to isolate if we had another positive pupil case.

The new staffing structure would look like this:

Reception - Mrs Burnett, Mrs Wate, Mrs Milnes, Jill Stone

Year 1 - Mrs Fields, Mrs Parker, Miss Anwar plus a newly appointed long-term teaching assistant

Year 2 - Mrs Logan, Mr Mullick, Mrs McArdle, Mrs Shaw (3 mornings)

Year 3 - Mrs McNally, Mrs Renwick, Mrs Ramsey, Mrs Swinburne

Year 4 - Mr Crown, Miss Charlton, Mrs Topel, Mrs Overton / Mrs Shaw

The idea is that these staff will stay with one class. Plus, the children will now play in their separate classes outside too to prevent class bubbles mixing.

This has impacted on the teacher's planning time and P.E sessions, so P.E in Year 2 will now be on a Monday and a Wednesday, Year 3's P.E days will now be on a Monday and a Wednesday and Year 4's P.E days will be on a Tuesday and Thursday.

I also wanted to mention to our school family that we have recently appointed a 'School Attendance & Punctuality Officer'. Her name is Claire Gardner and she will be coming in to school once per fortnight to help support some of our families with attendance and punctuality and to offer helpful advice and guidance around this. We welcome Claire to our South Gosforth First School family and look forward to her working as a part of our team.

Many thanks to all of our Year 3 parents and carers who have got in touch to say how well the home learning offer and teacher videos are going for our children who are self-isolating at home for a little while. Mrs Renwick, Mrs McNally and Mrs Whitehouse are all working really hard to provide good quality resources and clear teaching videos, so it is good to know that the children at home are getting such a lot from them. Please could all of our families from Y1 upwards ensure that they do get fully signed up for Seesaw so that we are fully prepared for home learning if we ever need it in the future.

Best wishes to all.

Mr Adams

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