



Shortlanesend School

Newsletter



26th February 2021

Spring Term

Dear Parent/Carer

We hope you all enjoyed a restful half-term break and you and your families remain safe and well.

School Update

You will all, no doubt, be aware that the government announced last Monday that all primary aged children will be permitted back to school from Monday 8th March. As a school we very much welcome this news. We have missed **all** our children being here with us over the past few weeks; even though we have sustained links through our blended programme of remote and in-school learning, as teachers we thrive on the interactions we have with our children. They are the very best 'work' colleagues anyone could wish for.

As we have continually said, we owe a debt of gratitude to parents, carers, older siblings, grandparents and everyone else at home who have supported the children's learning through this latest lock-down. Thank you.

It is possible that some children and parents will have concerns about the return on 8th March. We wish to assure everyone that we continue, as we always have, to prioritise the safety and welfare of our children.

We have maintained our strong relationships and interactions with our children through our TEAMS meetings, welfare calls and online interactions. Next week, teachers will be ensuring that children will be well prepared for the return to school through their learning activities and interactions.

We continue to review and adapt where necessary our risk assessments following the issue of new guidance and the general and local situation regarding the virus, always with the principle aim of minimising all risks. We will be issuing full details concerning procedures and planning for the return of all our children to you next week.

A reminder that the government, as mentioned in the letter you received this week from Aspire CEO Vanessa Bragg, have clearly stated that attendance for all children from 8th March is mandatory.

Finally, our shared recent experiences once again high lights that education is very much a partnership between the child, the parent and the school. We remain available should you need any support about the returning to school, your child's learning or their welfare in general.

World Book Day

Next week children will have World Book Day activities as part of their weekly learning, however, Mrs Ashley has set a whole school challenge for the week. She would like children to find the most unusual place and position to be photographed reading a book.

Remembering to be safe and remain aware of current restrictions on travelling distances. Please upload your photographs to your class page on either Tapestry or Google Classroom by Friday 5th March. There will be a prize for the most unusual places!

NHS Advice – A reminder

The NHS reports that the three main symptoms of Corona Virus to be watchful for are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

Dates

Spring Term:

The term is scheduled to finish on **Thursday 1st April**.

Summer Term:

The Summer term is planned to start on **Monday 19th April**. There is a bank holiday on **Monday 3rd May** and we break for half term on **Friday 28th May**. We return to school on **Tuesday 8th June**. The final day of the term and the year will be **Friday 23rd July** (this day will finish at **1:30**).

Have a restful weekend.