



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the start of 2022. I hope that you have all had a great Christmas and New Year and had opportunities to see family and friends that you were unable to see at this point last year.

Well you may have noticed that I have been MIA! All was fantastic until the very sudden onset of symptoms (linked to the Omicron variant) hit me early evening on Monday. I am doing ok and have definitely turned a corner and should hopefully be back on Tuesday next week. The reason I am sharing this with you is because although for most people they will manage their illness at home there are those that will still end up being desperately unwell and will end up in hospital. Living with a critically extremely vulnerable person always makes me think carefully about what I do. It is clear that no matter how careful we are no one is exempt from this.

I just wanted to share with you my personal experience as in all honesty when it first started I thought I had the onset of a cold and sore throat. I had no reason to suspect anything else at that point. My return to work LFT had been negative; I had been out for lunch and gone shopping. However, within half an hour I knew this was not just a cold. Another LFT and there it was positive.

The symptoms classed as COVID symptoms are loss of taste and or smell, new continuous cough or high temperature. I had none of those symptoms to start with. What I did have initially, and know has been common in others is headache, runny nose, sore throat and sneezing. Nothing, that would make you think COVID. I am urging each and every one of you to stop, think and check. It takes 16 minutes to complete a lateral flow test. This is 16 minutes' worth of our time it stops a vulnerable person contracting COVID. We have both vulnerable children and adults in school. Help us to help them by just checking. Had my symptoms not progressed Monday evening I would not have allowed a sore throat and runny nose prevent me from coming to school. The results of that could have been catastrophic. We already have other positive cases in school. Please be vigilant and help us to help everyone in our small school stay safe.

April Guinness
Head Teacher



Star of the Week

Eagles: Eddie
Kestrels: Inayah
Kites: Finley
Falcons: Iga



Sports Stars

Eagles: Erin
Kestrels: Logan T
Kites: Erin
Falcons: Daria

Weekly Quote

"Responsibility finds a way. Irresponsibility makes excuses!"
Gene Bedley

E-safety

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Youtube does its best to keep Youtube safe for children but it's not enough. Youtube is part of the enormous Google empire that has been number One & Two on the internet forever. Despite pressure from video Apps Instagram and TikTok, it is very popular with children.

For many children, it is the first place they make their own choices. So parents have to be up to date, yet keeping children safe and away from inappropriate YouTube content.

Interesting facts about Youtube;

Several billion YouTube videos

500+ hours of video are uploaded every minute

Two billion users log into YouTube every month

Read more at

<https://www.besecureonline.co.uk/Blog/entryid/324/how-to-keep-kids-safe-on-youtube-in-2021>

School Dinners

We now have a new menu for the children to try. Please remember the menu is a 3 week rolling menu, so remember to change your options if your child didn't like their meal and you have already ordered for the whole half term.

For those of you who order on a weekly basis please remember to place your **order not later than Tuesday 11th January for the w/c 17th January.**
Thank you.

Attendance

As you will be aware, the attendance target for the school is 96%. Currently our whole school attendance rate is 94%, which is below our target.

Remember every minute your child is in school counts, so please allow for the extra time you need during the colder weather to scrape the car in the morning to still get children here on time. The register closes at 8:50am, anyone arriving after this will need to enter via the front door.

Tesco Community Grant Scheme

If you are shopping in Tesco please remember to vote with your blue counters for our Blue-bots project every time you shop.

Please ask friends and family to vote for us too. The more votes we have the greater the chance we can receive a grant of £1,500 for the equipment.

Thank you

Swimming

The Kites class will continue to have swimming sessions at Sibford School up until half term.

Their first session this term will be on Monday 10th January. If your child needs a new swim hat we have stock still available in school, please use the shop element of SchoolMoney to purchase one.

Would your child like to try a new sport?

Tennis Solutions run a Friday Junior Group Coaching Programme at Tysoe Tennis Club.

The programme re-starts tonight, they are particularly looking for children in the 5 – 8 years sessions.

Please see poster displayed in the notice board at the front of the school or

contact Tennis Solutions:
email admin@tennisolutions.co.uk
Telephone: 07506479592
www.tennisolutionsltd.com

Please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing COVID 19

Symptoms:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Calendar Dates

Monday 17th January – Vision Screening for Reception children

Half Term holiday: Monday 21st – 25th Feb

☺ **FOW (PTA) would like to thank everyone who supported our events last year ☺**

Upcoming events are currently on hold, due to the restrictions.

FOW upcoming dates for your diary:

Wednesday 26th January 2022 (*provisional date*):

* FOW Meeting – 7pm, in the Kestrels Classroom

Thursday 17th February 2022:



* Rags2Riches 4Schools

If you are having a New Year sort-out of old/ unwanted clothes, please consider donating them to the school, as we can receive money from the 'Rags2Riches4Schools' Company.

Further details were sent via ClassDojo, please bring in donations on the 17th Feb.