

MARCH NEWSLETTER



Dear Families,

School is continuing to make its preparations to be open for all children following the Prime Minister's announcement last Monday when he confirmed that all children will return to school on **Monday 8th March**. Nursery children will continue to attend their timetabled morning or afternoon sessions.

The usual rules and duties around school attendance will come into force from 8 March. This includes mandatory attendance and the re-introduction of penalty fines for regular lateness and persistent absence. Please refer and adhere to the staggered timetable for arriving and collection of children already sent out. Please ask if you have any questions or concerns. Safety for all of us (pupils, parents and staff) is paramount and crucial to all our decision making. Together, we can each help to keep everyone as safe as is possible, following the rules and guidance provided.

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In addition to all our precautions, school staff are able to continue to take two rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) tests each week at home to identify potential positive cases quickly and break the chains of transmission. The latest information is that parents and carers of school aged children will now also be able to undertake these tests at home too. Together with the roll out of the vaccination programme, there is light at the end of the tunnel but only if we continue to remain alert and follow the guidance stringently.

Last week, together with other local Headteachers, Mrs Anderson and Mr Archer met with Kate Griffiths (Burton and Uttoxeter's MP) via a virtual meeting to discuss the safe return of the children to school. The local MP thanked everyone for their hard work.

'Teachers, have done an incredible job over the past 12 months to ensure that every child is able to continue learning from home in what have been difficult circumstances for everyone; children; teachers and parents.' Kate Griffiths.



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We would also like to thank you and all family members at home who have supported the children with remote learning, you have been doing an amazing job. Similarly, thank you to all the staff and those children attending school, as well as the families who have been involved in critical key worker roles. Together we look forward to the return of face to face learning for all our children. There are some lovely activities to engage with upon return, including World Book Day which we have postponed to allow all the children time to engage with.



You will all have been able to discuss the progress of your child with the class teacher before the 8 March (via phone calls replacing Parents' Evening). If you have any concerns or worries please do not hesitate to contact school via the office email. We have really missed seeing everyone in school and are looking forward to welcoming you all back.

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WORLD BOOK DAY *Festival*

This year World Book Day is on Thursday 4th March, you should receive a £1 digital book token which can be either exchanged for a specially selected World Book Day Book or can be taken off the price of any other books from participating stores e.g Tesco, Asda, Waterstones (to name but a few).

We have decided we will celebrate World Book Day as a school once all the children return. Therefore on the last week before half term (**Week beginning Monday 29th March**) all classes will be taking part in a variety of activities based around the book 'Orion and the Dark' for the week. On the final day, **Thursday 1st April**, we will have a 'Dress as your favourite book character/ non-uniform day' with prizes for the most imaginative costumes! As we can't welcome parents into school to share all the wonderful work your children will be doing, the class teachers will be sharing photos of the work on the school learning platform for you to enjoy! We think this will be a fantastic way for the school to come together!