



**COLD HARBOUR**  
C of E Primary School

## **GROWING, LEARNING, ACHIEVING TOGETHER**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

I am very glad to be writing this last 'lockdown' newsletter as school opens up to everyone on Monday. It has been a very long 2 months and we have missed having all the children in - school just doesn't feel the same! We are all very much looking forward to seeing our children back in school and seeing smiles, joy and laughter as they enjoy spending time with friends they haven't seen for a while.

It is likely that most children are going to love coming back to school to see their friends and engage in learning again. Some might feel a little more reticent having been out of routine for so long. If that is the case, please do not worry. We are ready and have planned some lovely activities to welcome the children back and nurture their relationships with each other. If you do have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher.

As warmer weather is on its way and children and parents haven't seen each other in person for a while, it will be tempting to walk home together, potentially visit the play park together and such like. We have been asked to stress that meeting outside with 1 other person (not more than this), while following social distancing rules will be allowed from the 8th March. From the 29th March the rule of 6 or 2 households will apply outdoors only. It is important to follow these rules to keep the rates of transmission down - I know we all want this to end soon so we must all play our part.

### **Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college**

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

### **Covid-19 Reporting to school**

It is especially important as all the children are returning to school, that you continue to advise us if you or any of your household members have a Covid-19 test at any time. We should be informed of every test as we are monitoring instances within our school community. These results are stored securely and are used for statistical purposes. Please send your NHS results to us at [office@coldharbour.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:office@coldharbour.milton-keynes.sch.uk). Thank you for your continued support.

### **Absence Reporting**

Any absences must be reported to the school office by telephone 01908 270377 Opt 1 or by the ParentMailPMX absence button. It is vital that all children are accounted for. Please give specific reasons for absence otherwise we will need to contact you for clarification.



## PE Days

As we did before Christmas, the children can come to school dressed in their PE kit on the days which they have PE. The days are as follows:

Cygnets	Wednesday and Friday
Sparrow	Thursday and Friday
Goldfinch	Wednesday and Thursday
Flamingo	Monday and Wednesday
Macaw	Tuesday and Thursday
Hummingbird	Tuesday and Wednesday
Puffin, Kingfisher & Penguin	Monday and Thursday

## Start and Finish Times

Each family were notified by ParentMail PMX on Monday 1st March of their specific times so please ensure that you have seen this notification. If you are not sure, please contact the school office and they will be able to help you.

## School Lunches

A reminder that if you did not manage to order school lunches for next week, your child will need to bring in a packed lunch as we are unable to provide anything for them. The deadline for ordering lunches is by 2.00pm on a Tuesday for the following week.

## Resources

For those that have been learning at home, please can you return all resources and reading books that were sent home during the lockdown. Our school is operating on a very tight budget and so we cannot afford to replace lost items. We very much appreciate your cooperation with this.

## Chromebooks & homework

Up until Easter at least, homework will be set online through Google Classrooms and Purple Mash, so for those of you who have been lent a Chromebook, you can keep them at home for now. Previously, I have asked if anyone needs a wireless 4G router to help access online learning. The DfE are still providing these. If you feel that you would benefit from one, please can you email the school office. I will then need to get in touch with you for further information that the DfE requires.

## School Lottery

If you would like to support our school lottery, please visit our school website for further details at <https://www.coldharbourschool.org.uk/school-lottery/> Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!

For all our budding tennis stars, Stony Stratford Tennis Club - Tennis Works have been producing weekly Multi-skills Tennis Videos entitled The School Mission series The latest Schools Mission 5 video is now live on [www.tennisworks.net/future-tennis-stars](http://www.tennisworks.net/future-tennis-stars).



In addition, John Cavill from the club will be presenting a Facebook Live session every Saturday between 9 and 9.30am. To join us please visit [Tennis Works at Stony Stratford Tennis Club| Facebook](#).

We are delighted to be returning to some kind of normality and know that many of you are looking forward to the children coming back to school. May I, once again, thank the very many parents and carers who have sacrificed and supported their children with their remote learning at home, staff have been impressed by the commitment of many of the children to their work and to improving through their engagement with the feedback sessions we've provided.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Claire.**