



20th September 2021

Welcome back!

We have had such a great start to our Autumn term, the children are settled into new routines and have made a super start to their learning journeys.

As we did in last academic year, we will continue to have focus areas for the whole school this year, the first of these will be inclusion week (starting next week), when all children across school will look at 'equality' as one of our school values alongside an RE focus day on stories. We will also celebrate National Poetry day in school on Thursday October 7th and our half termly focus for mental wellbeing will be a "Hello Yellow" day on Friday October 8th in the lead up to World Mental Health day on Sunday 10th October (more information will follow nearer the time).

COVID update:

Before the summer I wrote to parents and carers to say that at least for the first 2 weeks we would be continuing with many of the protective measures put in place last year for COVID, such as early sibling drop off, staggered starts etc.

Due to the rising case numbers across the Dudley borough linked to schools, these preventative measures will now continue until at least half term. The local authority advice is "Don't relax just yet", and we continue to take direct advice from the local Public Health team for any school related matters.

Whilst reporting is now officially with Track and Trace, school will still be supporting Public Health with this process. There have been lots of changes for everyone. Many parents are choosing to do regular lateral flow tests as a family, which is really helpful if your child has no symptoms.

Can I just clarify the following re **testing**:

- if your child is unwell with classic COVID symptoms then a PCR test is required.
- this is also the Public Health recommendation if your child has wider symptoms to take a PCR test.

Please note that any requests from school to have a PCR test are as a result of Public Health advice as part of the Dudley outbreak management plans.

Thank you for all playing a part in protecting our school and wider community.

Kind regards,
Mrs Hannaway

Headteacher: Mrs A Hannaway

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The symptoms of COVID-19

The main symptoms of COVID-19:



a new, continuous cough



a high temperature



a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

...you should immediately self-isolate and book a PCR test for any of the above symptoms.

Symptoms sometimes linked to COVID-19:



headaches



aches and pains



sore throat



runny nose



sneezing



tummy ache in children



feeling very tired for no good reason

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