

World Book Day: The children, both at home and at school, looked AMAZING!

Our next PTA meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 16th March: Please join us on Zoom to plan the next series of events.

Safer Internet Workshops: I hope that those parents who attended the session last night found it informative and useful. The second session is next Thursday at 6:30 – 7:30pm (this will be a repeat of the first session) [Details of how to log-in are below](#)

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NWlxNjkyMGEtY2E0MS00Nzk1LThlNzAtYjhkMDczYmE2YTJk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%223a2ac011-d18e-4130-8ca2-67498dddf5fb%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2229ea60a6-51a3-4d89-bc8e-f0e99a3c600a%22%7d

Monday 8th March: All pupils in all classes must attend school from Monday 8th March. An updated information sheet has been sent out. Attendance will be tracked and monitored as usual.

Snacks: If children bring a snack to school, these must be a healthy snack (no crisps, biscuits, sweets or chocolate). There must be NO NUTS at all please. Only water in water bottles – no juice.

School dinners / packed lunches: Please inform the office as soon as possible if your child is moving from packed lunches to school dinners, or dinners to packed lunches.

Easter Holiday Club: We are offering (for the first time) childcare for the Easter holiday camps. This will be run by our Games Coaches from Junior Sports Stars. Details have been sent out.

Interesting wellbeing reading: Here is a collection of excellent resources for parents, to support wellbeing at home.

<https://padlet.com/stockportbss/vxzajteb09v8n8lk>

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

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

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:

Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

1. By collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests. Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm and those using the service do not need to make an appointment, but they should not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times. You can collect LFD testing kits from local testing sites in Manchester, at the following locations

- Armitage / Moseley Road - Lower Carpark, Fallowfield
- Ancoats Central Retail Park, Ancoats & Beswick
- Belle Vue Speedway, Longsight
- Brownley Road, Woodhouse Park
- Birchall Way (Former Landrover **garage**), Hulme
- Denmark Road Building, Rusholme
- Platt Fields Park, Fallowfield
- Ukrainian Cultural Centre, Cheetham

<https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

2. By ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, as 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.

Looking ahead: The last day of this term – Thursday 1st April, will be a day filled with activities to bring us altogether as a school, to include a Fun Run, Easter Bonnet Parades, Decorated egg competitions, special assemblies and an outdoor sing-along. More details will be sent out so you can help your children prepare!

As always, contact me any time: t.smith@newislingtonschool.co.uk