

Ormesby Village Infant School

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Friday October 16th 2020

Dear Parents

We are almost at the end of our first 'new normal' half term and we would like to congratulate all our children for the amazing way they have adapted to all the necessary restrictions and Covid rules. We are very proud of them! The days are long, and they are very young, and they are working so hard in all areas of the curriculum. Many thanks to all the staff, who have also risen to the challenge, providing a rich and varied teaching programme alongside ensuring children stay as safe as possible. Many thanks to all of you for supporting us in our requests and helping your children with their learning at home.

Covid reminders

1. Please continue to be vigilant about recognising possible Covid symptoms, self-isolating and getting tested if necessary. Many thanks!
2. Please remember that we have asked you to drop off/collect children at their allotted times. You should then leave the site immediately. Please do not allow any children to play with each other on the site while you are waiting. Many thanks!

Possible future confirmed covid cases in school

We know that we are all in a heightened state of anxiety at the moment because of Covid and that the recent confirmed case at the junior school earlier this term was very alarming. We want to explain in a little more detail what happened/will happen if we have another confirmed case/cases at either school, to reassure you that we are following required and correct procedures.

1. As soon as we are informed about a positive case of Covid, of a pupil or adult at the school, we have to inform the DfE/local authority.
2. We keep an accurate chronology of pupil/adult attendance/absence, dates of first symptoms, dates of tests, date of results, as well as providing information on who the person/s will have had contact with in school.
3. On the basis of this information, specific to each case, the DfE/LA tells the school if anyone needs to self-isolate. **The school does not make this decision.**
4. Depending on the decision, the school will send out the relevant LA approved template letter. If your child needs to self-isolate you will receive a letter telling you. If your child does not need to self-isolate you will receive a letter telling you this.
5. You will not be informed who has tested positive by the school because of data protection guidelines.



6. All the restrictions and guidance that schools are having to put into place are to keep children as safe as possible. If there is a risk that someone who has tested positive in school could have transmitted the virus to a bubble/individuals, they will be required to self-isolate. If children/adults are not required to self-isolate it is because the circumstances and time-line of infection means it is not judged necessary and so children should be in school.
7. Persons who have tested positive, or who are required to self-isolate, will only return to school after the required period of quarantine. The school is advised about this and keeps accurate registers.

Harvest

Usually we would be looking forward to our annual visit to the church for our Harvest celebration. Sadly, we cannot do this because of Covid, but we are still celebrating Harvest in our classes. Each class will upload an aspect of their work around this important festival before we break up for half term – so look out for it! We would still like to make our food donation to the Salvation Army and ask that you send in a tin of food or toiletries with your child on Monday October 19th. These will be displayed before the Salvation Army collects them to distribute to the local community. Many thanks in anticipation of this voluntary donation.

Parents' evenings

These will take place virtually after half term and we will let you know how we plan to communicate with you on this important occasion.

We hope you have a very happy and healthy half term break. School finishes to pupils on Wednesday October 21st and we look forward to welcoming them back to school on Monday November 2nd.

Yours sincerely

Lucy Bates

Lucy Bates
Headteacher