

Marwood Primary School Newsletter

05/11/2021

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been great to welcome the children back to the second part of the Autumn Term. This is always a busy time. Children are fully immersed in class learning and working on their targets.

There are many events for children to take part in in November:

- Bonfire night, I hope everyone stays safe please follow [Devon Fire and Rescue Service Firework guidance](#),
- Remembrance, we will hold a minute silence at 11:00am on 11th November as our act of Remembrance, [Poppy Appeal](#). The British Legion have supplied the school with Poppy Appeal items to sell.
- Children in Need – Friday 19th November – School Council are planning their fundraising and will advertise in next week's newsletter.

Safety in the lanes. Parents dropping off and picking up at the black metal gates, should pull over to the left to allow traffic past while children get in and out of the passenger side doors. Any driver who needs to get out to assist a child should not stop at the gates but park on the left further up the lane and walk the children back.

Covid 19. Everyone is grateful for the effort to follow the guidance to reduce the spread of Covid 19. Staff will call parents to collect their child and have them PCR tested if we see any of the notifiable symptoms during the school day. We cannot diagnose a whether a cough is 'just a cough'. The Barnstaple Walk In PCR test centre is returning results very quickly. We have had one confirmed case and families in the classes have been informed. The guidance is that well children should attend school and do not need to isolate.

I have added Devon Education and Public Health's October Covid 9 information to parents at the end of this newsletter.










MSA Christmas Card orders last return day **Wednesday 10th November**. Huge thanks to Sarah McMenammin for organising this.

Christmas performances: Each class is planning to present a performance in December. In the light of Covid 19 cases increasing we are not inviting families onsite. I am going to record each performance (music or play) and upload it. I am very interested in parents' views on the best place to host recordings. YouTube / shared drive / other? Please contact me on my email below if you have any suggestions / preferences.

Meal Time Assistant Vacancy – 12:00 to 1:00pm Fridays, please contact the school office if you are interested in this post to support the children during the lunch break. A DBS check and references will be undertaken.

Kind regards

Alun

 adobson@marwood.devon.sch.uk Alun Dobson - Headteacher	 send@marwood.devon.sch.uk Jennie Cousins SENDCo – Tues and Thurs	 sgriffin@marwood.devon.sch.uk Stella Griffin Class 1 - Mon / Tues / Wed
 gmay@marwood.devon.sch.uk Gill May Class 1- Thurs / Fri	 lhume@marwood.devon.sch.uk Laura Hume Class 2 - Mon to Fri	 nmannell@marwood.devon.sch.uk Natalie Mannell Class 3 - Mon to Wed
 hjones@marwood.devon.sch.uk Helen Jones Class 3 – Thurs / Fri	 rpolak@marwood.devon.sch.uk Rosie Polak Class 4 - Mon / Tues	 elong@marwood.devon.sch.uk Emily Long Class 4 – Wed to Fri

After School Clubs Autumn 2021		
Monday	Tuesday	Friday
<p>Tennis</p> <p>Devonshire Tennis Academy</p> <p>KS1 and KS2 3:00 – 4:00pm</p>	<p>Football</p> <p>Exeter Soccer Schools</p> <p>KS1 and KS2 3:00 – 4:00pm</p>	<p>Karate</p> <p>North Devon Karate – Will Homa</p> <p>KS1 and KS2 3:00 – 4:00pm</p>

Marwood Menu

Please talk through the menu in the morning to help your child make their choice.

WEEK BEGINNING 08/11/2021					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY Outdoor meal
OPTION 1	Macaroni Cheese Mixed Vegetables	Turkey and Ham Pie Green Beans, Cauliflower and Gravy	Roast Gammon and Pineapple Roast Potatoes, Cabbage, Carrots and Gravy	Organic Beef Burger Mixed Vegetables and Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers Chips and Peas
OPTION 2		Quorn Sausage Roll Green Beans, Cauliflower and Gravy	Lentil Loaf Roast Potatoes, Cabbage, Carrots and Gravy	Plant Burger Mixed Vegetables and Potato Wedges	Vegetable Pasty Chips and Peas
OPTION 3	Jacket Potato Beans and Cheese	Jacket Potato Beans and Cheese	Jacket Potato Beans and Cheese	Jacket Potato Beans and Cheese	x

Please ensure all your children's clothes have their name in, it really helps your child take responsibility for their things.

Class 3 Girl Footballers Thursday 4th November Skills Session at the Tarka Centre

The children enjoyed four different football skills activities. Huge thanks to parents for providing transport.



Acting Success

George, from Class 4, attends a youth theatre group and has been in on stage this week. The final shows are tonight and Saturday. We wish him great success. He has already been asked for his autograph!



Letter to all parents and carers

Education & Learning
County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QD
Tel: 01392 383000

8 October 2021

Important Covid-19 update for Schools

Dear Parents and Carers

Schools have done an incredible job over the past 18 months of balancing the challenge of continuing to educate our children whilst keeping Covid-19 cases as low as possible. Devon has been one of the highest performing Local Authorities for school attendance throughout the pandemic, which is testament to everyone's hard work and your ongoing support.

We have seen several changes in national policy over the course of the pandemic, with a shift now to trying to get back to some normality. The latest changes introduced by the Government will feel very different to how schools have managed Covid-19 previously. Devon County Council recognises that this has been challenging for parents and schools alike and very different to last year. We want to assure you that schools in Devon are working within the current national Department for Education and Public Health guidance.

These changes include:

- Adults who have been double vaccinated for over 14 days no longer need to isolate if they are identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19.
- Children and young people aged under 18 years and 6 months who are identified as a close contact, either within school or outside of school, no longer have to isolate and can continue to attend school and social activities as normal, providing they are not showing any symptoms.
- Schools are no longer undertaking contact tracing within their setting given that pupils no longer need to isolate as contacts of cases. NHS Test and Trace will continue to contact positive cases (or their parent or guardian if aged under 18) and ask about their close contacts but will only follow up those they have been provided contact details for.



Actions we are taking with schools:

- All schools continue to have outbreak management plans in place which are reviewed and updated regularly.

- Additional testing may be introduced to identify cases quickly and reduce the chances of pupils and staff being in school whilst infectious.
- Secondary school-aged children, staff and members of the community continue to be encouraged to take a lateral flow test twice a week to help identify cases without any symptoms.
- Schools may communicate with parents/guardians when covid cases are reported in school, followed by a specific communication which will be sent to /parents/guardians when there are identified outbreaks within groups.

What can you do to help?

Please help your school and community by following the guidance below:

<p>When should my child attend school?</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • Children and young people under 18 years and 6 months (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household has Covid-19 or they are a close contact of someone who has Covid-19. • Instead, they will need to book a PCR test but can continue attending school, so long as they have no symptoms, while they await the result of the test. If the test result is positive, follow the actions below.
<p>When should my child self-isolate or miss school?</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms at home, they should stay at home and should book a PCR test, NOT a Lateral Flow test. • If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR test. • If your child tests positive on a lateral flow test, they should book a PCR and isolate until they have the result. • If your child tests positive for Covid-19 on a PCR test, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but they still need to book a PCR test and isolate if they test positive. Please report positive results to your school.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on children's development and wellbeing. The above measures will help to ensure that class or school closures are only introduced as a last resort. Schools continue to work very closely with the Department for Education, the UK Health Security Agency (formally Public Health England) and Devon County Council to ensure measures are in place to prevent spread and to respond swiftly as soon as cases are identified.

While rates in the community are lower in Devon than the England average, we are likely to continue to see cases in schools for some time. This means schools will no longer be writing to

parents / guardians about individual cases, but will once several covid cases are reported in school, as outlined above. Fortunately most children testing positive are experiencing either mild symptoms or no symptoms at all, however Devon County Council continues to monitor this closely.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and for working with us to keep our whole community as safe as possible.

Best wishes



Steve Brown
Director of Public Health
Devon County Council



Dawn Stabb
Head of Education and Learning
Devon County Council



Five Finger Rule

How to choose a book that is just right for you.
Open the book to any page.
Put up a finger for each word you don't know.



5 Too tricky!

3-4 Give it a go!

1-2 Just perfect!

0-1 Too easy!

