

Dear parents and carers,

Friday 22 October 2021, forthcoming events for the week commencing Monday 1 November 2021			
Monday	01.11.21	All day	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Tuesday	02.11.21	8am-9am 9am – 10am 10:45am 3.30pm-6pm	Breakfast club Guitar and Ukulele music lessons Brass music lessons After school club
Wednesday	03.11.21	8am-9am 3.30pm-6pm	Breakfast club After school club
Thursday	04.11.21	8am-9am 3.30pm-6pm	Breakfast club After school club
Friday	05.11.21	8am-9am Lunchtime Afternoon After school 3.30pm-6pm	Breakfast club Hotshots basketball – year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Individual and group string lessons After school football club with Brackley Town After school club


### COVID-19 Precautions moving into Term 2

The below information from me accompanies a letter sent to all families from the Director of Public Health for Northamptonshire this afternoon.

You will no doubt have seen the increasing number of cases of COVID-19 across the country this week. There were over 50,000 cases nationwide yesterday, and while they are still much lower than this time last year, there is a worrying rise of hospital admissions locally too. Acting on advice from Public Health England, one school within our Multi Academy Trust closed completely this week because of the increasing number of positive cases – more than 50% of the school had positive PCT test result. The vaccination programme has been a huge success in easing pressure on the NHS but the risk is still very real. I remain very concerned that the rising number of cases locally may have a significant impact on school moving into next term. So, from the beginning of term 2 on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be reintroducing some mitigations because I am not prepared to wait for central government to take action. The mitigations we are reintroducing are detailed below:

- All adults will be required to wear a face covering when on the school site. The science supporting the use of face masks is clear. For me, this is a ‘no brainer’ and should be reintroduced across the country as soon as possible.
- Non-staff members will not be allowed into the building unless they are wearing a face covering.
- All visitors who enter the building will be asked to scan the NHS Track and Trace barcode upon arrival – this is because Track and Trace duties are not the responsibility of schools anymore. Please make sure you have downloaded the NHS COVID-19 app if you are planning on entering the building.
- All face to face events such as parents’ evenings will move to remote provision. This means that our upcoming parents’ evenings in November will be virtual as they were last year. However, the planned book fair in the first week of December will be able to take place but any adult entering the hall will have to wear a face covering, sanitise their hands and scan the NHS Track and Trace barcode.

Following the handful of cases back in September, we reintroduced a number of mitigations within school, which seem to have made a positive difference but we must remain cautious. None of us want to return to lockdown style remote learning; we all want children in school as much as possible and therefore it lies with all of us to help as much as we can. While I am optimistic that the country is in a better place this winter than last winter (although the next few weeks may be critical here), I am preparing for a very difficult and challenging term ahead.

Upcoming diary dates	Thought for the day...
<p> <b>22.10.21</b> – term 1 ends  <b>1.11.21</b> – INSET day  <b>2.11.21</b> – term 2 begins  <b>3.11.21</b> – flu vaccinations  <b>8, 9&amp;10.11.21</b> – parents evening  - remote  <b>25.11.21</b> – Southfield Governors  AGM  <b>WC6.12.21</b> – Assessment week  <b>7.12.21</b> – reception and KS1  panto trip to Chipping Norton  <b>15.12.21</b> – KS2 panto trip to  Milton Keynes  <b>16.12.21</b> – Term 2 finishes  <b>17.12.21</b> – INSET day  <b>4.1.22</b> – Term 3 begins </p>	
<b>FOSS Updates</b>	
No updates this week	
<b>SPS Achievements this week</b>	
<p><b>Ready Respectful Safe – going above and beyond our high expectations</b></p> <p><b>Pre-School – Edward</b> showed super listening skills for Mrs Venables in the positional language group yesterday... being ready to learn and respectful</p> <p><b>Reception</b> – In Reception this week <b>Connie</b> has settled in brilliantly and is always ready to listen and learn.</p> <p><b>Year 1 and 2 – Jennifer</b> - for always setting an excellent example and being her best self</p> <p><b>Year 3 – Lathen</b>- For settling very well into our Year 3 Class and <b>Noah</b>- For very sensible behaviour in class, and working hard on tasks set</p> <p><b>Year 4 – Everyone</b> - Year 4 you have worked hard all half term and we are so proud of you all. Have a good rest next week so you are ready for another exciting half term in school.</p> <p><b>Year 5 – Everyone</b> – for how brilliantly they have worked during Mr Fox’s paternity leave. Well done, year 5!</p> <p><b>Year 6 – James, Paige and Amy</b>, for an incredible final piece of work in English and History this week.</p> <p><b>A note from Mrs Verey</b> - Ryan and London in Year 6 this week as they were totally respectful during Monday afternoon, they were always ready to learn and despite there being a lot to do, they both focused well and worked hard right up until the end of the day. So sensible and mature!</p> <p><b>Special Head Teacher mention</b> – <b>Elijah</b> (yr4) for his excellent pronunciation in French this week, <b>Daytin</b> (yr6) for his excellent piece of writing about Ernest Shackleton, and my <b>entire staff team</b> for their incredible dedication, enthusiasm and commitment during what has been the toughest term of the pandemic era so far!</p>	

With best wishes,  
Matt Green  
Head Teacher