



Gillingstool Primary School



NEWSLETTER

Gillingstool, Thornbury, South Gloucestershire, BS35 2EG Tel. 01454 866527

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Dear Parents and Carers

I am sorry to begin yet another newsletter on the subject of COVID but I want to take this chance to reassure our parents and carers about the steps we are taking to minimise cases within school.

We have had three confirmed cases across two classes in the past week but this number is relatively low in comparison with other local schools. The restrictions we have in place to reduce mixing across the school appear to be helping to minimise infection. We are monitoring case levels closely on a daily basis to ensure we can react quickly with the advice of Public Health if numbers should rise.

Our children are generally remaining in their bubbles, with the majority of mixing taking place at playtimes outside in the fresh air. The classrooms are well-ventilated and every class now has a CO2 monitor which let us know if the air quality drops so we can open the doors and refresh the air throughout the day. Children also continue to wash their hands regularly and staff wear masks in communal areas.

Where cases are confirmed, families in those classes are notified and asked to carry out daily LFD tests for 7 days. This will help us to identify new or asymptomatic cases quickly and isolate the children or staff immediately. Staff and volunteers continue to test on a twice weekly basis.

I do understand that having cases in school is a worry but please take some reassurance that we are being incredibly careful and that with good communication and plenty of testing at home, we will continue to keep school as safe as possible for everyone.

Mrs C Carter

IMPORTANT DATES

14th – 18th February – Book Week

18th February – Last Day of Term 3

28th February – INSET DAY school closed to pupils

1st March – Term 4 begins

7th March – Y6 residential to Morfa Bay

8th April – Last Day of Term 4

25th April Term 5 begins

9th May – Y6 SATs week

27th May – Last Day of Term 5

6th June - INSET DAY school closed to pupils

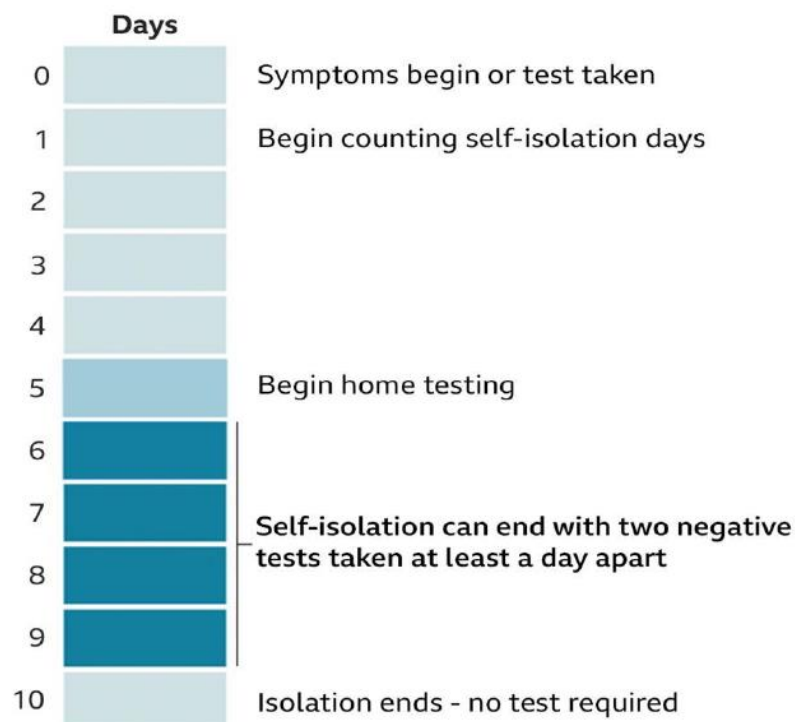
7th June – Term 6 begins

21st July – Last Day of Term 6

COVID – UPDATED GUIDANCE

- If a child exhibits **symptoms (cough, temperature above 37.8 degrees, loss of taste or smell)** they should still **get a PCR test** to confirm whether or not they have COVID. Household members should isolate unless they are fully vaccinated or under 18 years and 6 months, until the results are known.
- If there is a **confirmed case in the household**, close contacts aged 5 and above should **test daily at home before attending setting for 7 days**. **Under 5s** are advised to take a **one off PCR test** if they live in the same household as a confirmed case.
- A **positive LFD test result no longer needs to be followed up with a PCR test**. A positive LFD is now classed as a confirmed case and **isolation begins from the first day of your symptoms or the day you had the positive result if you have no symptoms**.
- If you test positive you **can stop self-isolating after 5 days if** you:
 - do **2 LFD tests 24 hours apart on day 5 and 6** of your isolation period
 - both are **negative**
 - you have **no temperature**.
- You must continue to isolate until day 10 if you have not had two negative LFD tests 10 days apart.

How five-day isolation rule works in England



COVID - HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

- Check your family for symptoms every day: **cough, temperature above 37.8 degrees, loss of taste or smell**
- **Do not send children in with symptoms - instead arrange a PCR test if they have any of them.**
- Arrive on time (not early or late).
- One adult to drop off and pick up and leave the premises as soon as you can.
- **Make sure we have 2 emergency contacts (in case your child develops symptoms throughout the day).**
- **Answer the phone if we call. If a child develops symptoms, they must go home as soon as possible.**
- Minimise entry to school - contact school by phone or email/pay for lunches in bulk, by cheque.



HOT CHOC HEROES



Our Over and Above Superstars ...



Week Two

Jessica
Freddie
Braydon
Clarke
Cameron
Rohan
Lauren

Week Three

Clementine
Evie
Hassan
Riley
Kye
Karina
Jennifer



Join our free 4-week workshop
Supporting your Child to Overcome Anxiety
at Gillingstool Primary School

Starting Monday 17th January, 1.00-3.00pm

With Miss Vokes in
attendance

The workshop includes:

- Recognising anxious behaviours
- Calming breathing techniques
- Supporting your child's self-esteem
- Reflection on parenting techniques
- Communication skills with children
- Strategies to manage anxiety

To book a place contact:

Anneliese Goodare

Email: anneliese.goodare@southglos.gov.uk

Phone/Text: 07979 701860

SCHOOL MEALS

Is your child(ren) entitled to a Free School Meal?

Don't miss out on the benefit related Free School Meal offer, you can quickly check if you are eligible and apply at www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals

A hot, freshly prepared meal at lunchtime can help with learning, concentration, and positive behaviour.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCY



We also have a vacancy for a lunchbreak supervisor.

This entails aiding and supporting the children during lunchtime both in the hall and the playground.

The hours are from 12.00 to 1.00pm each day.

If you are interested in this post and would like more information please contact the office.

CARETAKER VACANCY

Those of you who have spotted me unlocking the gates and sweeping the leaves will know that we are currently recruiting for a school caretaker. If you now someone who would like to become part of our amazing team please let them know about the vacancy.

Caretaker required 15 hours a week 7.30am – 10.30am

£10.01 per hour

Duties:

- open the building every morning
 - Compliance checks
 - Small repair/DIY jobs

All necessary training will be provided



Contact school office for further information



**24th January
Issue 10 2022**



*Inspire,
Believe,
Achieve*

