



# Gillingstool Primary School



# NEWSLETTER

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

E-mail: [office@gillingstool.org.uk](mailto:office@gillingstool.org.uk) Website: [www.gillingstool.org.uk](http://www.gillingstool.org.uk)

## *Dear Parents and Carers*

This term seems to be galloping by at a rapid pace. The Christmas break is a distant memory and as spring is around the corner we are beginning to plan for some exciting in school events such as our traditional February Book Week and the Year 6 Residential Trip to Morfa Bay just after the half term holidays. More information regarding Book Week will follow this week. Our theme this year is 'Mystery' and Miss Elsbury has an exciting week planned including theatre performances and Bedtime Stories.

Moving onto the subject of COVID, I am please to say that our decision to remain in bubbles, following a number of cases, seems to have had the desired impact. The number of confirmed cases across the school has fallen over the past week to the point where we currently have just one confirmed case at the present time.

The restrictions we have in place to reduce mixing across the school appear to be helping to minimise infection so we intend to keep these in place and will gradually reintroduce mixing in light of advice from Public Health if number remains so low. All being well, our first joint event will be our Book Week Pantomime but please rest assured we will continue to monitor case levels carefully before making further changes.

This will be the last newsletter before our half term break so I will take this opportunity to thank you for all your understanding and support in what has been a very tricky term due to staff absence and illness. I hope you all have a restful holiday and that everyone keeps well.

*Mrs C Carter*

## **COMMUNICATIONS ARE CHANGING**

We are pleased to announce that we are moving our home/school communications from the Parentmail App to Arbor, the system we now use across the office. Eventually this will allow us to book Parents' Evening and take online payments all using the same system. We hope that having everything in the same place will simplify matters and make our communications more effective.

Parents will need to switch to the Parent Portal/Arbor App but we will send out more information on how to do this over the next couple of weeks.

# IMPORTANT DATES

**14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February – Book Week**

**18<sup>th</sup> February – Last Day of Term 3**

**28<sup>th</sup> February – INSET DAY school closed to pupils**

**1<sup>st</sup> March – Term 4 begins**

**7<sup>th</sup> March – Y6 residential to Morfa Bay**

**8<sup>th</sup> April – Last Day of Term 4**

**25<sup>th</sup> April Term 5 begins**

**9<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs week**

**27<sup>th</sup> May – Last Day of Term 5**

**6<sup>th</sup> June - INSET DAY school closed to pupils**

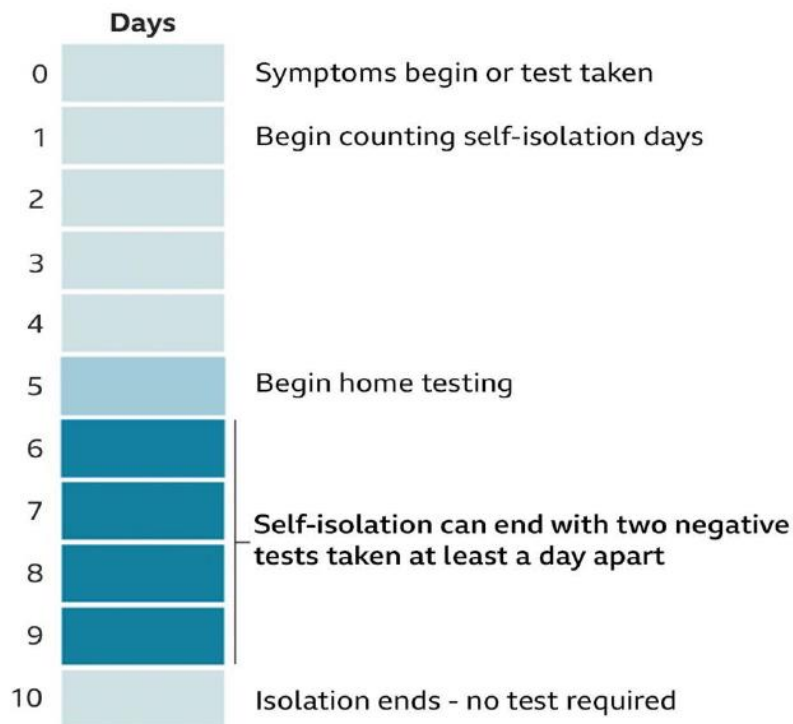
**7<sup>th</sup> June – Term 6 begins**

**21<sup>st</sup> 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 Four

Charlie  
Skye  
Enol  
Aubree  
Nicoleta  
KaylaMay  
Chloe

### Week Five

Daniel  
Poppy  
Lily-Mae  
Betty  
Ema  
Ruby  
Amy  
Rmahya

## CARETAKER APPOINTMENT

I am really pleased to confirm that we have been successful in recruiting a caretaker. Within a couple of weeks, I look forward to introducing you to Mr Kim Morris who you will see on the playground in the mornings. He is very excited to be joining our team and we look forward to having him working with us.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go to Mrs Rachel King who has been successful in being appointed to a new role at St Mary's School. We wish her all the best for the future but will be sorry to see her leave at the end of term.



7<sup>th</sup> February  
Issue 11 2022



*Inspire,  
Believe,  
Achieve*

