



Headteacher's Newsletter Vol 5

21st January 2022



Happy New Year!



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great festive period and a good start to the new year! Thank you so much to all those parents who sent a card or gave a gift to any of the Radstock staff team for Christmas. It was very much appreciated.

The children quickly settled back into the swing of learning and as always, impressed me with their enthusiasm for learning. We have some great learning planned in over the next few weeks so please make sure you ask your children what they have been learning about!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Mrs Slocombe

Headteacher

Ofsted Inspection

For all parents



Thank you for all your kind wishes, messages and deliveries of chocolate for the 2-day Ofsted inspection last week. We have been waiting for an inspection team to return for a long time and the Radstock staff team were pleased to give them chance to see the improvements we have made across the school in all areas.

Sadly, I am unable to share the outcome of the inspection with you until the report has been finalised. However, I am allowed to say that I am delighted with the result and am looking forward to sharing the report with you and the staff team as soon as possible!

Curriculum News

For all parents



The Curriculum News for the Spring term will be sent out on Monday - apologies, but it has been delayed by our visitors last week. This document contains information about what the children are studying. We have been working on our curriculum over the last 3 years and are constantly developing and improving it.

In order to ensure that the children deepen their knowledge, particularly in history and geography, we have moved to a learning project over an entire term for children in Key Stage 1 and 2, or Years 1 to 6. Science will then be taught separately, rather than combined with the learning projects in the way it was previously.

For more information, please take a look at the Curriculum News out on Monday!

Pupil Attendance

For all parents



We have noticed that there have been an increase in the number of requests for family holidays recently, as a result of the easing of restrictions on foreign travel. Not only will this absence not be authorised by the school, I would like to politely remind you that children should be in school as much as possible!

The impact of two years of disturbed schooling, because of the lockdowns and COVID, mean that children should be in school regularly. Two weeks holiday, plus a week's isolation can have a serious impact on children's learning. Please keep those holidays for when the school is closed.

Thank you for your support!

COVID-19 Update

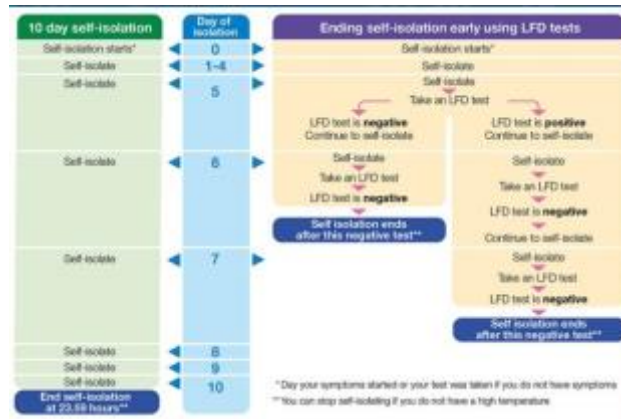
Be cautious. Be careful. Be kind.



For all parents

We know that some of the rules around COVID have changed recently, which do appear to be quite confusing. I wanted to update and remind you of the situation.

Firstly, if your child has a positive LFD test and no symptoms, they do not need to undertake a PCR test. The LFD test will count as "Day 0" and then the 10 days self-isolation starts from the following day. If your child has symptoms, and they can be different to the typical cough, temperature or loss of taste and smell, the individual should get a PCR test and self-isolate until the result is known.



From Day 5 onwards, anyone who has had a positive LFD or PCR result can take an LFD test. If the individual tests negative on Day 5 and Day 6 on LFDs and doesn't have a temperature, they are able to come into school. This then continues daily up until Day 10. Please see the diagram for further information.

We are asking families who have a close contact within the household to keep their child at home for the first 5 days, as this is when transmission generally occurs. If they are continuing to test negative on LFDs and have not developed symptoms, they can then return to school.

Online work is available for all pupils to access via Google Classroom as long as they are well enough.

We now have 4 classes, in Year 3 and Year 5, who have entered the contingency framework. Children in these classes should be testing on LFD tests daily for 7 days. Please support us with this testing regime as it prevents further spread of the virus across the school.

We have had a number of significant staff shortages this week in all areas of the school and the Radstock staff team are pulling together to cover these absences. We will try and minimise disruption to your children but please bear with us.

Please make sure you report all COVID-19 test results to our covid@radstock.wokingham.sch.uk e-mail address. Thank you for your support.

Y3 Geology workshop

For Y3 parents



As part of their learning project on Rocks, Relics and Rumbles, Year 3 experienced a geology workshop in the first week of term. The children learnt about the geographical features of earthquakes and volcanos.

One learning activity was where the children used the different terminology to discuss how a volcano erupts, using orange plastic to illustrate the magma flow and eruption.

Another learning activity was where the children explored myths from different countries about volcanos and earthquakes. Safa from Miss Bell's class told me the story of how Loki had a jar of poison held over his head which a snake dripped venom from his fangs into. Every little while, the poison in the jar would pour down Loki's face and he would shake his head in pain, causing earthquakes across the world. The children then created freeze frames to portray scenes from the story.

Diary Dates

Please find below the Diary Dates for the Spring term. As I am sure you understand, these dates are provisional and dependant on government guidance and the number of COVID-19 cases in school and the local community. Some events may be virtual and some may be cancelled and postponed. We will update you with further information as we move through the term.

Monday 7th February: Virtual Parents' Evening

Tuesday 8th February: Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 9th February: Virtual Parents' Evening

Friday 18th February: House Multi-Skills

Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February: HALF TERM



Thursday 3rd March: World Book Day

Monday 7th March: Parent Drop-in

Friday 11th March: Sports Relief - children to wear an item of red

Monday 21st March: World Poetry Day

Wednesday 30th March: LKS2 Performance - may be virtual and only Year 4

Thursday 31st March: LKS2 Performance - may be virtual and only Year 4



Friday 8th April: End of term - children finish between 1.10pm and 1.20pm



Please contact us via the following methods:



Telephone 0118 986 9050

E-mail admin@radstock.wokingham.sch.uk