

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you very much for your continued support and understanding with the arrangements we have in place to keep us all as safe as possible. It is a slightly strange situation at the moment whereby the restrictions are being eased socially, but schools are required to continue to follow the covid safety guidance according to DFE advice. We are so pleased that these have been relaxed regarding our sports clubs and outdoor activities, but our bubble management and hygiene and distancing requirements remain in place as before.

There remains some confusion about the requirements where a child (or close contact) is displaying any of the covid related symptoms. Symptoms= PCR test (not lateral flow test) There are a lot of colds and sore throats at the moment - unfortunately the school is unable to make a judgment about whether the development of a cough or temperature is related to the cold or to covid. This is why we require you take your child for a PCR test (NOT the lateral flow test you do at home) and request a negative result confirmation from the NHS to be sent before they may return. We do understand this may be difficult especially around work commitments but ask that you remain patient with us and continue to follow the government requirements. This is to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Transition

We have combined the Reception and Class 1 bubble at lunchtimes for transition purposes and they are really enjoying making new friends and playing together. We will be offering the chance for the year groups who are moving into the next class, to spend some time with their new teacher during next half term, but will not be mixing the bubbles in KS2 as part of this. The Year 6 who are moving to secondary school will have heard or be hearing from their secondaries about their plans for transition and taster days.

We are looking forward to welcoming our new reception intake who will be joining us for learning together sessions with their class teachers – they will be part of a KS1 bubble on starting in September.

At the moment, with uncertainty about the covid variants, it is looking highly likely that we will be keeping the same arrangements in place at least for the Autumn term next year. We may make some small changes and will let you know about these in advance of starting back in September. This is, as always, open to review in the light of any future developments or advice.

Holidays

We understand how difficult this year has been for everyone and how tempting it may be to take a holiday during school term time. Please be advised that we are unable to authorise any holidays during term time.

Finally, along with all the staff, I'd like to wish you all a very happy half term break and thank you for your positivity and support.

Kindest Regards

Mrs Jackie Halliday

Staffing

Sadly, our finance officer Mrs Marshall has taken the difficult decision to resign her post following an illness from which, we are pleased to say, she is making a good recovery. I'd like to thank her for her hard work and dedication to the school and wish her every happiness in the future. We have appointed Tanya Clark, an experienced school-based finance officer and welcome her to the team.

School Development Plan

We are coming to the time of year when we review our current School Development Plan and plan future improvement objectives. Suggestions from you last year included teaching the children more about the environment and this is something that we have now added more clearly to our long term curriculum maps and encouraged through Eco club. We will also be engaging with national 'Green day' on Thursday 8th July, organised by the multi-school's councils, focusing on Global warming & pollution.

Please let us have any suggestions or ideas for this year's School Development plan by email to me

headteacher@messingprimaryschool.co.uk before 21st June.

You might like to think about areas such as the curriculum, parental involvement, the Community, Behaviour, Enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom or any other ideas. All ideas are very welcome.

Diary Dates

31/5/21-4/6/21	Half Term
7/6/21	Non-pupil day
15/6/21	New intake session 9.15-10.00
17/6/21	Enrichment day Handball Virtual visit to Barleylands Class 2
24/6/21	New intake session 1.45-2.45
28/6/21	Enrichment day -Musical Theatre
29/6/21	New intake session 1.45-2.45
1/7/21	Yr 6 trip to Mersea outdoors
5/7/21	Enrichment day -Olympics
7/7/21	Celebration assembly Reception
8/7/21	New intake session 9.15-10.00
8/7/21	Celebration assembly Class 1
9/7/21	Celebration assembly Class 2
13/7/21	New intake information meeting 9.15-10.15 via zoom
14/7/21 and 15/7/21	Class 3 end of year performance 'Robin Hood and the Sherwood hoodies'
20/7/21	Year 6 Leaver's assembly
21/7/21	Last day of term