



LEARN TOGETHER

'Let's learn to enjoy, achieve, respect and nurture together'

2nd November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

A warm welcome back after the half term break. It was lovely to see so many children well and back at school. We do still have some poorly children and staff who we send our good wishes to and look forward to seeing them back at school soon.

We are looking forward to continuing our work on the new curriculum this term, developing ideas with the children. We also have activities planned for fund raising with the PTA and School Council and lots to look forward to as we head towards Christmas.

Diary Dates

An updated list of dates has been emailed to parents together with this letter. Dates are also on the calendar tab on the school app and calendar page on the school website.

Face Coverings

A reminder that face coverings do need to be worn when coming onto the school grounds please. Schools are expected to strongly encourage parents to minimise physical contacts in the school grounds and to move away from entrance and exit gates as quickly as possible. A huge thank you for the support that we receive with all of this.

Self-Isolation Guidance

As you are likely to be aware, guidance around self-isolation in Wales changed on 29th October.

Self-isolation has changed when **somebody in your household** has COVID-19 symptoms **OR** has tested positive.

The following written in *italics* has been taken directly from Welsh Government:

Children aged 5 to 17 and fully vaccinated adults

*If someone in your household has symptoms **OR** has tested positive your child / you should self-isolate and a **PCR test** should be taken (not lateral flow tests). If the test is negative your child / you can stop isolating and return to school / work.*

You should remain vigilant for new symptoms, and try to avoid contact with vulnerable family and friends in the short-term.

For children aged 5 and above, this means that if **anyone in your house** has symptoms or has tested positive, **please keep your child at home until they have taken a PCR test** (not rapid lateral flow tests) and received a negative result. When you receive the result please contact school by email with confirmation of this. Your child can then return to school.

Adults who are not fully vaccinated

*If someone in your household has tested positive and you are not fully vaccinated you should self-isolate for 10 days. You should **take a PCR test** on day 2 and day 8. You should self-isolate for 10 days even if your tests are negative.*

Children aged under 5 (0-4 years)

Children aged 0 to 4 years of age do not have to self-isolate or take a test if they have been a contact of a positive case in their household.

Children aged 0 to 4 years old no longer need to take a PCR test, even if they have COVID-19 symptoms. This is unless a doctor advises there is a need for it. Also they can get tested if parents feel that a PCR test is necessary and in the best interests of the child.

For those children under 5 who have COVID-19 symptoms but are not tested for the virus they do not need to complete any formal period of self-isolation. However, we advise that those children should be kept home from school or childcare until they are well enough to return.

For children below age 5 (0-4 years), this means that if anyone in your house has symptoms or has tested positive, your child can still attend school / childcare settings if they are well. You do not have to access a PCR test for your child but can do so if you wish.

If your child has develops any symptoms or becomes unwell, they need to be kept home from school until they are better.

If any parent is unsure, please don't hesitate to contact the office by email or telephone after 8am in the morning and Mr Hill or Mrs Bayley will only be too happy to help where they can.

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please ring and leave a message on the telephone absence answer service before 8am or email mailbox@barkerslane-pri.wrexham.sch.uk before school starts.

Please state your child's name and class and give the reason for absence. Where possible, please expand a little bit on 'feeling ill' to explaining any symptoms.

Please **DO NOT** use the absence form on the school website at this time. There is a problem with the system. Diolch.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards



Chris Edwards
Headteacher / Pennaeth