



Newsletter 4

September 2020

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Dear Parent/carer,

Well done to all the children who made last week so enjoyable for us all. Their attitude since they have come back to school has been wonderful. It has been a big transition back to full time school and they are building their stamina for learning back up to the levels of pre lockdown. The junior classes had a wonderful trip to the beach with Dawn Thomas last week and thoroughly enjoyed a 'Fire' themed visit.

As you are no doubt aware we have entered a local lockdown from yesterday. School operations will continue as they are at present. There are no plans to restrict education at the moment. We are lucky so far that we have had no cases of the virus affect the school since reopening. Please do ensure that if your child has a positive Test that you let the school know as soon as possible so we can take the necessary steps to keep everyone safe.

I have copied a letter from the interim director of education below for your information.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Jenkins



Right of the month:
All children have
rights no matter what

Letter from Interim Director

Dear Parents/Carers

I wrote to you a fortnight ago with great optimism that our children and young people in Swansea were enjoying a successful return to education. Today, our focus on responding to pupils' wellbeing and learning needs has never been sharper. All our schools are working exceptionally hard to minimise risk and keep learning going.

The news this week that public restrictions in Wales are becoming tighter has strengthened our resolve to keep learning going in Swansea. Today's announcement of a local lockdown will not change schools remaining open for the benefit of all our children and young people.

We know that the effect of Covid-19 on the younger generation is far less than the older population. Further disruption to education carries high risk to wellbeing and we would seek to avoid this wherever possible. Understandably, there may be periods of short disruption ahead.

At this point, I need to thank you, as parents, for the support you have been providing to schools during the start of term. It is increasingly unlikely that schools will return to the way they were operating for a considerable time. We are experiencing partial reductions in operations within schools where whole year groups are asked to stay at home for 14 days.

Our school staff have been fantastic in the way they have kept learning going when year groups are asked to self-isolate. We are confident that this will continue. It is clear that teaching and learning will not be locked down. We are currently supporting schools to switch back to remote learning swiftly in order to minimise disruption to learning.

Where there has been a case of coronavirus in a school then headteachers are working with the council, Public Health Wales and the NHS Wales Test, Trace and Protect service to ensure that all the appropriate measures are in place to protect pupils, staff and the wider community.

These measures are communicated with parents as swiftly as possible and headteachers need everyone's support in recognising that they are going the extra mile every day. 25 September 2020

We know that our schools are preventing transmission of Covid-19 through robust risk assessments and that recent positive cases have come into school from outside. You can have confidence that your school is doing all that it can to prevent transmission in school and to keep learning going. We appreciate that there will be

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uncertainty as numbers of positive cases in our area increase but schools have a range of control measures in place to keep buildings and people safe.

We require schools to ensure that all staff, pupils and parents understand how environments, procedures and operations work in each school by now. Many headteachers are taking the burden of responsibility but it is up to each and every one of us to play our part and know exactly how to behave during this challenging time. As parents, you have a big part to play in supporting education within your community and I know that our collective efforts will keep the safety of pupils and staff in our schools as the top priority.

I invite you once again to engage with the Test, Trace and Protect process and seek a test if your child has one of the following symptoms

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal. If you are uncertain you should contact NHS Direct 111 or your GP. Our collective effort to support Swansea's children and young people to continue to learn in school is vitally important right now.

Yours sincerely Helen Morgan-Rees Interim Director of Education

Health & Safety

One of the main challenges we face is ensuring we do the right thing when one of our household falls ill. I have included this is the latest advice from Public Health Wales and a poster which may be useful. If you are sure that the symptoms are a seasonal illness and not Covid 19 then you should behave as usual. If your child is well enough send them to school, if not then keep them home until they are. If you have any doubts about their symptoms please contact NHS Direct on 111 or your GP for advice.

Staying away from school:

- **Do not attend school** and self-isolate if you or your child:
 - Has any symptoms of Coronavirus (self-isolate for 10 days)
 - live in a household with a person who has tested positive for Coronavirus (self-isolate for 14 days)
 - have been contacted by a contact tracer and told that you must self-isolate (self-isolate for 14 days)
- Arrange a test for anyone who has any of the following symptoms by going to www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or dialling the free number 119:
 - New continuous cough
 - High temperature (above 37.8oC)
 - Reduced taste or smell (anosmia)
- If your child has symptoms and you are waiting for their test results they **must not attend school** and must self-isolate.
- If your child is a contact of a case, they must self-isolate for the full 14 days even if they have a negative test result.

Flu Vaccine

The flu vaccinations will take place in school on Thursday 1st October 2020.

All consents (both yes and no) should have been returned to school by Friday 18th September.

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Homework in KS2

This year we will continue with the approach we adopted last year. We want to put the emphasis onto key skills as the most effective way of supporting learning at home. This will be especially important following the disruption to the last academic year.

Reading: younger and less confident readers should practice reading every night with an adult. Parents should listen to and question more confident readers at least twice a week.

Tables: J2Blast on Hwb every week to practice their target tables.

Spelling: J2Blast spelling every week to practice at their level and given spellings for weekly tests.

Presentation: Once a term children prepare a presentation on an aspect of the topic. This will be completed to be presented to the class following half term. The teachers will outline the new system to the children this week.

Daily Mile

As part of our emphasis on health and well-being we are starting the daily mile again this week. Each class will walk laps of the field for 10-15 minutes every day at a time suitable for them. We hope this will have really positive effects on the health and learning aptitudes of the children.

Pupil Voice

We will be voting on and deciding our new pupil voice groups over the next few weeks. So watch this space for regular updates.

Easy fundraising

Thank-you to everyone who has registered and joined easy fundraising to collect donations. We currently have 68 supporters and have raised a total of £2,160.63. So a big thank-you to everyone who is collecting donations and if you are not yet registered then please follow the steps below.

We are raising money for Knelston Primary School – Swansea via easy fundraising.

It's so simple to get going all you have to do is:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/knelstonprimary>
2. Sign up for free
3. Get shopping and start raising

No catches, no hidden charges and Knelston Primary School - Swansea will be really grateful for your donations. It would be fantastic if you could join me and really help make a difference.

Music Lessons

Music lessons will not be taking place this week.

Clubs

All clubs are on hold until further notice

Dates for your Diary – Autumn Term 2020

Date	Year Group	Activity
Thursday 1 st October	Rec-Y6	Nasal Flu Vaccine

INSET Days

- **Monday 2nd November**
- **Monday 21st December**
- **Tuesday 22nd December**

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School term and holiday dates 2020/2021

Term	Term begins	Term ends	Mid-term holiday		Term begins	Term ends	Total days
			Begins	Ends			
Autumn 2020	Tuesday 1 September	Friday 23 October	Monday 26 October	Friday 30 October	Monday 2 November	Tuesday 22 December	76
Spring 2021	Monday 4 January	Friday 12 February	Monday 15 February	Friday 19 February	Monday 22 February	Friday 26 March	55
Summer 2021	Monday 12 April	Friday 28 May	Monday 31 May	Friday 4 June	Monday 7 June	Friday 16 July	64
Total:							195

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**COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence:
A quick guide for parents / carers**

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when child's test comes back negative and child is well enough
...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days 	...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if

	<p>from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i></p>	<p>they test negative during the 14 days</p>
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What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
<p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
<p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
<p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed 	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>



	that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again	
....I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only people with symptoms* need to get a test• People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive	...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met