

Kings Worthy

Primary School

Newsletter



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Dear Parent and Carers

Covid Concerns

I know that many of you are concerned about the rise in Covid cases across the school. Since the start of the pandemic we have always followed the official guidance provided by the DfE and at no point have we ever strayed from this guidance. The procedure that we follow every day has not changed since day one – mainly that we have to report our attendance to the DfE along with the number of cases within school. I have provided a breakdown below of what happens:

- *We report the number of cases to the DfE who have set questions they ask to gain the information they require.*
- *The DfE pass on this information to the Hampshire Protection Team.*
- *The Hampshire Protection team then make a decision about whether to contact the school to put further measures in place. There isn't a set time they would contact us by and it would be dependent on cases within other schools across Hampshire that they are also dealing with - i.e. we may have a lot of cases, but not as many in comparison to other schools they are prioritising.*
- *All schools across the country are being given the same advice.*
- *The current measures we have in place follow the guidance and should continue unless we are told otherwise.*

Since we came back in January, I have issued guidance on 3 occasions as to the procedures we are following in school, how you can support what we do and what you should do if a Covid case arises at home. This guidance is provided to all education settings, which sometimes gives conflicting advice, that I do my best to interpret the best way for Kings Worthy Primary School – in essence, I do not deviate from the guidance given.

Before writing this, I looked back across my newsletters and attendance trends relating to Covid absence at Kings Worthy and you have to remember how well we did as a school and as a community in the first 18 months (we had minimal child and staff absences). It was only since returning to school after October half term that we started to see a steady rise in numbers. It is no coincidence that after Christmas – when many of us will have taken the decision to enjoy time with friends and family from different parts of the country – that case numbers in Kings Worthy have continued to rise.

It saddens me when I receive emails explaining the repercussions and consequences of catching Covid (having had it myself, I know what it is); whether we could do more as a school; provide further communications into what we are doing to stop the spread. The team have worked tirelessly throughout, putting the children first and foremost in everything that they do. We closed year R this week for one day. I think that over the course of this pandemic a one-day closure is pretty good going, considering so many other schools have had to close completely because of staff shortages and illness. Who's to say that won't yet happen?

There is not a single day goes by where Miss Eggleston and myself do not discuss Covid and how it is affecting the children, staff and parents of the school. We do our best everyday to make the right decisions and choices. I know that you as parents, myself being one too, also have to make those decisions with our own families. We will continue to make those difficult decisions and look forward to your support in the coming weeks.

Children's Mental Health Week

This year, children's mental health week runs from the 7th – 13th February with the theme this year being 'Growing Together'. Please look out in the newsletter next week for what we have planned in school to mark this important week.

(written by Miss Shuff and Mrs Coleman).



Spelling Shed

Another super week of Spellers. This week it is the turn of the girls. Well done to Florence who has managed to maintain her top position and to Molly in Year 2 who has jumped from third to second place. Here are this week's results.

Individuals

1st Place - Florence, Year 4

2nd Place - Molly Y, Year 2

3rd Place - Bea, Year 3

Classes

1st Place - 2S

2nd Place - 3M

3rd Place - 4B

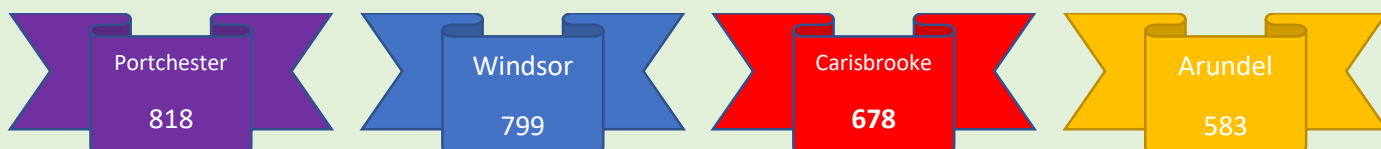
Children drop off

We are seeing a gradual increase in the number of children waiting around at the school gates in the morning much earlier than when we actually open them. Please could I ask for your support in ensuring that your child/ children are not at the school gates much before 8.45am as the gates are not opened until that time.

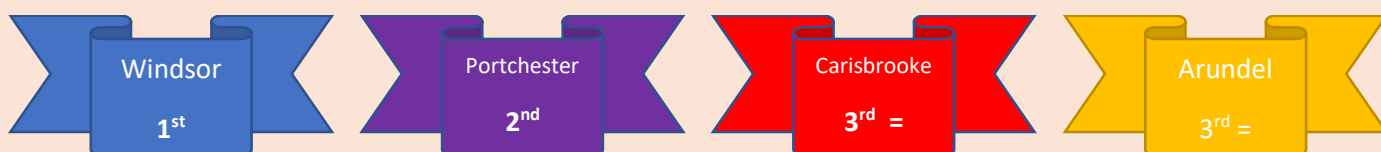
Inset Day - Friday January 28th

A reminder that next Friday is an inset day. School will be closed to all pupils.

House Points – Week Two



House Points – Termly



Jamie Dodson
Headteacher