

The



Learning for Life

24th November Issue 11

Covid-19

If you or your child have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
 - a new, continuous cough
 - a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- you must self-isolate straight away and get a PCR test (a test that is sent to the lab) on GOV.UK as soon as possible. A Lateral Flow Test is not suitable if you are showing symptoms.

NEW PHONIC READING BOOKS

We have invested in some brand new Read Write Inc phonics books to extend our range of early reading resources. Please be aware that all bookbag books that are sent home for home reading (hardback or paper) are property of the school and should not be written on or drawn in. Please can we also ask that water bottles are kept separate in rucksacks from school books. We are very grateful for your help in looking after and preserving our reading books and for continuing to support your child's learning by reading with them at home.

Attendance and Punctuality

Yesterday I received a letter from the Secretary of State for Education instructing schools to place a high emphasis on encouraging good attendance of children to school. This is so that they can benefit from the catch-up teaching and interventions that are being put in place to help close the gaps in their learning as a result of the school closures. This is not only crucial for ensuring that all children, including the most vulnerable, are taking advantage of the education recovery programme, but also for their own physical and mental wellbeing. The Government is therefore expecting schools to robustly follow through on high levels of absence for children and I wish to make you aware of this.

Please can I also remind you again that we need children to be at school punctually as many of the interventions take place first thing in the morning, as does phonics teaching for the younger classes. The Governors have recently passed a Punctuality Policy which is attached to this Willand Word for your information which we will be implementing.

Obviously if your child is ill, it is still important to keep them at home for the required time.

Village Hall Car Park

I have received a letter from the Village Hall committee who are concerned about the number of cars that are being parked in their car park throughout the day. This is impacting on the availability for parking for those who have actually hired the village hall. There have been instances recently where over 20 cars have been parked in their car park all day, with no-one actually using the hall or tennis club. The trustees agreed that parents could use the car park to drop off and pick up children at school, but they feel some people may appear to be abusing this.. One Wednesday recently, they had a large booking in the afternoon who complained about the lack of parking spaces They have warned that if this unauthorised use of the car park continues, they may have to resort to locking the gates when they have bookings in the hall during the school day. Please can I ask parents to park elsewhere if they are helping out at school during the day and only use the car park for drop off or pick up times.

Christmas Lunch

If you have not already done so, please order your child's Christmas lunch via the link that was sent to you – if you have not received the link please get in touch.

Pre-loved Uniform - PTFA

We have a fantastic selection of good quality pre-loved uniform available should you wish to collect any for your child. Due to the weather forecast expected this Friday, we have moved the pre-loved sale online and have made available a list of uniform we have in stock on our PTFA Facebook group and school year groups. Should you wish to collect any for your child please feel free to contact us at willandschoolptfa@gmail.com

We also welcome any donations of outgrown Christmas jumpers, should you wish to donate any please get in touch!

Christmas Online Market - PTFA

Our Christmas online market is now live showcasing lots of wonderful locally produced handmade products. If you are looking for some present ideas why not take a look and be inspired whilst supporting local <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2625766584384829/?ref=share>

We would love to see our school children's budding entrepreneurial skills listing their fantastic creations for sale. If you would like to list your business or products, please get in touch. We are happy to help with post content and have a handy sellers guide to help get you started.

Mid Devon Residents' Survey

Mid Devon have asked that we share the attached flyer with parents about their survey, which closes on 30th November.

Admission Arrangements

This is the annual opportunity for parents and the local communities to review the admissions arrangements that are proposed and to comment on them, making suggestions for change. For more information see the attached flyer.

Events

Healthy Appetite & Activities

Healthy Appetite & Activities are delivering a 'Free Holiday course' named 'Fit and Fed' during the Christmas Holidays for children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM).

Venue: Culm Valley Sports Centre, Meadow Lane, Cullompton, Devon EX15 1LL

Dates: Monday December 20th to Wednesday December 23rd (4 days)

Times: 10.00am until 3.00pm

Ages: Boys and Girls Aged 5-14

Places are strictly limited to 50 and will be offered on a first come first served basis

See the attached flyer for more details

Sports Camp @ Halberton Primary School

4-11 year olds. 29th and 30th December – please see the attached poster for information and booking form.

Please note that we are unable to check on the validity of the companies or the people running the schemes, and if those working with children have the correct police checks.

Lunch Menu for week commencing 29th November 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pepperoni Pizza	Boston Meatballs (Turkey)	Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding	Homemade Sausage Rolls	Harry Ramsden Fish
Cheese Pizza	Vegetarian Balls	Quorn Sausage	Cauliflower Cheese	Vegetarian Quiche
Pasta / Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Spaghetti Broccoli	Roast / Mash Potatoes Fresh Carrots Gravy	Mash Potato or Pasta Baked Beans or Peas	Fries or Pasta Seasonal Vegetables Tomato Sauce
Ice Cream & Pineapple	Syrup Sponge & Custard	Fruit Smoothie or Cheese & Crackers & Apple Slice	Meringue Nest with Peaches & Cream	Iced Sponge

Baked potatoes with cheese, beans, cheese and beans or tuna. **Pasta Pots** with Italian tomato sauce, chicken and sweetcorn, cheese or tuna. Fresh fruit and yogurts are available daily.

*Keep safe and keep well
Anne Hawkins
Headteacher*