



Abbas and Templecombe Church of England Primary School

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Newsletter (2) Friday 18th September 2020

It has been another busy week in school with everyone beginning to settle really well into the new routines. Many children were very tired at the end of last week and we had a lot of pupils with colds at the beginning of this week. I have copied below the latest symptoms guidance for Coronavirus which breaks down the three main symptoms a little further. I hope this is helpful, but I also continue to be more than happy to discuss parents' concerns on the phone as needed.

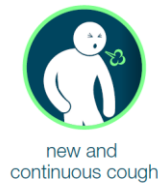
Coronavirus in children – symptoms and testing (from Public Health England)

As we approach winter and more children are attending school and early years settings, there is likely to be an increase in the number of children experiencing mild respiratory symptoms such as runny noses and colds. Children with these symptoms do not require self-isolation or testing for them or the wider family.

The three main symptoms of coronavirus in children are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- 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 anyone displays these symptoms then it is very important that they do not attend school / are sent home, self-isolate with their family and get a test. They cannot return until they receive a negative test or the 10-day isolation period has finished.



new and continuous cough

or



high temperature

or



loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Tests must be booked through the national portal online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by phoning 119. Do not phone 111, turn up at a local test site without a booking, contact the GP or visit A&E, they will not be able to help. Just keep trying the national portal.

Collective Worship



This week we have looked at the stories of the Flood (Genesis 6-9) and the Great Tower (Genesis 11). In our reflection times we have focused on the rainbow being a promise of love and thankfulness, just like it has been used to thank our key workers recently. Our second story explored how we all have special talents, meaning everyone should respect what is unique about us all.

During our Friday reflection time we shared pupils' reflections from across the week. Summer from Ruby class shared, 'I think my special gift is my imagination'. Rosie O, from Topaz class wrote, 'treat everyone how you want to be treated' when considering the builder's behaviour. Emerald class created rainbows and wrote all the things they are thankful for and shared something special about their neighbour in class. Diamond class made rainbow promises just like God. Matthew shared his: 'I promise to look after Forest School'.



Flu vaccinations

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the Somerset Saint consent form online for your child to receive the flu immunisation. Here is the link if you have yet to complete the form (one for each child, please), but please do so before their deadline of 23rd September: <https://saint.sompar.nhs.uk/flu/2020/east>. If you are unable to access the online consent form for any reason please contact Somerset SAINT for assistance. The team have asked us to share with you their flu promotional video which demonstrates how school based flu sessions will run this term during these uncertain times: https://youtu.be/cdqeuH97_aU

Curriculum – Amazing Animals



Next week we will begin our “Amazing Animals” topic, which lasts for two weeks and will focus mainly on science-based learning. The children across all classes will be focusing on the same area of learning but meeting objectives for their age and stage. We are hopeful that children will enjoy discussing the learning in their class bubble and with their siblings. Opportunities for sharing learning across classes are limited at the moment, but these will develop to become a big part of the learning experience as Covid restrictions lessen.

Fundi Returns

It was brilliant to welcome our reading dog Fundi back to school on Wednesday this week. Mrs Broomhead, his handler, works at lunchtime with Emerald class, so Fundi will be listening to Emerald pupils for the time being, to ensure no crossing of bubbles occurs.



Forest School Footwear



Please do bring in wellington boots/ask for school spares so that your child has appropriate footwear for when we go to Forest School and for when the weather changes - some classes will continue to use the field at break and lunch times to ensure bubble distancing. If your child’s wellington boots were left here before lockdown, please do let us know and we will attempt to reunite them.

Reading books

Pupils will be bringing school reading books home and when these are returned, books will be quarantined before other children can read them. For the time being we will not be sending home their reading records but these continue to be completed in school. Please do carry on reading with your children at home as this is a vital skill, no matter what their age.

Homework

Teaching staff are continuing discussions around homework and how best to deal with this under the current circumstances. We are working on several ideas and hopefully will be able to share our decisions with you very shortly.

PTFA - Bags2School

Thank you to everyone who donated bags to this week’s collection. You raised a brilliant £162.



We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

J. Webb

Mr Webb