



# Headteacher Update



2024 - 2025

## Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February – General Update

### Parent volunteer readers needed

Do you have an afternoon free a week to help listen to children read? If you do, we would love to have you in school as a volunteer parent reader. We would also welcome any grandparents who have the time available! We already have a grandparent reader who is supporting year 2.

If you would like to be a volunteer you will need to have a DBS check. This will be organised for you as part of the process and you will receive more information regarding this once you have expressed an interest in volunteering. Once all of the paper work is complete, you can then attend school either weekly or fortnightly for reading sessions with a chosen year group on an afternoon that suits you.

If you are interested in becoming a reading volunteer, please contact the office so that Mrs Priddy can call you to discuss next steps.

### Mobile Phones and Online Safety

As a school, we do not allow pupils to bring mobile phones into school, please can parents ensure pupils are not bringing phones in for any reason. If there are exceptional circumstances when it might be needed, this needs to be agreed with myself (Mrs Duffin – Headteacher) prior to the event.

Each week in the pupil's computing lessons, they focus on an aspect of online safety as it is so important that they understand how to be safe online; whether that's gaming, social media or online browsing. A couple of weeks ago in assembly, we focused on using the internet safely and I was very pleased with the children's knowledge of how to stay safe (reporting pop ups, not sharing personal details, turning 'location' off, not speaking to people they do not know...) but I was shocked by the number of children who have said they have access to apps which have an age rating older than themselves. We took some time to talk about age ratings and the reasons they are in place. The following sites are great for offering parent support:

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Keep Children Safe Online: Information, Advice, Support - Internet Matters](#)

[Library | The National College](#)

### Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?



Sourced from NSPCC website October 2019

## Water Bottles

Please can I remind all parents to send their child to school daily with a named water bottle. We are having an increasing number of pupils asking for plastic cups each day which is not good for the environment. We will of course not let a child go without a drink but it is easier for them to have their own bottle.

## Illness and Medicines

Unfortunately, we are in the 'poorly season' and there are some pupils who have a cough or cold, which is absolutely fine to come to school with. However, if you think your child will need some medicine (Calpol) during the day, please provide this at the school office and complete the relevant paperwork so it can safely be administered.

### Illness & Absence

On occasions, your child might feel unwell and it can be challenging to know if your child can attend school or should stay at home. Please use the following guide to help decide. Always remember to inform school on the first and each day of absence. This can be done via telephone call, text or through the Arbor app.

 When to come to school	 When to come to school - but inform us	 When to stay at home
<p>Please send your child to school if they have any of the following and feel well enough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Sore throat</li> <li>* Cold</li> <li>* Cough</li> <li>* Feeling tired</li> <li>* Hay fever</li> <li>* Achy or sore limbs</li> </ul> <p>Children can still take part in learning even if experiencing the above. Please give them medicine at the start of the day if needed. Medication can be passed to the school office if needed during the school day. Always ensure your child has a water bottle and tissues.</p> <p>We will always contact you if your child is ill during the school day.</p>	<p>Please send your child to school but inform us if they have any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Headache</li> <li>* Feeling sick</li> <li>* Stomach ache</li> <li>* Ear ache</li> <li>* Toothache</li> <li>* Experiencing feelings of anxiety</li> <li>* Twisted, sprained or broken limbs</li> </ul> <p>Children can still take part in learning even if experiencing the above. Please give them medicine at the start of the day if needed. We have highly skilled staff in school that can support children with anxiety and would rather support from the start so the feelings don't 'snowball' into something bigger.</p> <p>Adaptations and risk assessments will be put in place for broken limbs.</p>	<p>Unfortunately there are some occasions when your child will be too unwell to attend school. Please keep your child at home if experiencing any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Sickness and diarrhoea</li> <li>* Contagious illness (chicken pox, impetigo, measles)</li> <li>* Operations / medical treatments</li> </ul> <p>Medical evidence for appointments should be provided for school to ensure the absence is authorised, however, please try and make appointments outside school hours if possible.</p> <p>You must inform the school office if your child is unable to attend school on the first day of absence and each following day of absence. Please endeavour to inform school first thing in the morning if your child is not going to be in school.</p>

**Important things to remember!**

- Please inform the school office on the first and each additional day of absence. We will send a text home if you have not informed us on the day. This can be easily be done through the Arbor app so you don't have to phone to inform us. Please be aware that if you don't give a reason for absence, it will not be authorised.
- If you do need to complete a holiday request form, this should be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to the holiday dates. We will also need to see a copy of your booking confirmation alongside this.

### Guide to Childhood Illness

Chicken Pox *	Keep off school until the spots have crusted over
Cold Sores	No exclusion period from school
German Measles *	Keep off school for 4 days from onset of rash
Hand, Foot & Mouth	No exclusion period from school
Impetigo	Keep off school until lesions are crusted or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment
Measles *	Keep off school for 4 days from onset of rash
Ringworm	No exclusion period from school
Scarlet Fever	Keep off school until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment
Slapped Cheek *	No exclusion period from school as rash appears after the infection has passed
Warts & Verrucae	No exclusion period from school

\* If your child has one of these infections, please notify school staff as soon as possible as these infections can pose a great risk to female staff or parents and carers who are pregnant.

Diarrhoea and/or vomiting.	Keep off school for 24 hours from the last episode of vomiting or 48 hours for cases of diarrhoea.
E Coli	Keep off school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea.
Whooping Cough *	Keep off school until 48 hours after antibiotic treatment
Conjunctivitis	No exclusion period from school
Glandular Fever	No exclusion period from school
Head lice **	No exclusion period from school
Mumps	Keep off for 5 days from onset of swelling
Threadworm	No exclusion period from school
Tonsillitis	No exclusion period from school

\*\* Please inform school if you have had to treat your child for head lice.



## Sweets/treats/healthy snacks

As a school we do not allow pupils to bring in birthday sweets/treats due to the increase in food allergies and the expense to families; all pupils (who want) have their birthday celebrated in the classroom. Please can parents also be aware of not sending sweets into school in lunchboxes, we do ask that lunch boxes are healthy and provide a balanced nutritious meal. If your child would like a snack to eat during their play times, we ask that these are also healthy. Please remember in all cases, we are a nut free school.