



HOWLETCH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL MARCH NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well and enjoyed the lovely Spring weather this weekend. We are very much looking forward to having all of the children back in school next week to regain some sense of normality for everyone. We will be concentrating on getting the children back into routines, ensuring that they're happy and settled in school and providing some Fun-time Friday activities - see below for more details of World Book Day and Red Nose Day

COVID CASE

Unfortunately one of our Reception bubble members has tested positive so the whole bubble, Mrs Armstrong's and Mr Winn's classes, will not be returning to school until **TUESDAY 9 MARCH**.

ROUTINES FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL RETURN

All year group bubbles apart from Reception will return on Monday 8 March following the same timetable of staggered start times and exit times as were in place before Christmas. Here is a reminder of the times:

	Entry	Exit
EMP BASE –	8:45 am	3:10 pm
Yr 6	8:45 am	3:10 pm
Yr 5	8:50am	3:15 pm
Yr 4	8:55 am	3:20 pm
Yr 3	9:00 am	3:25 pm
Yr 2	8:50 am	3:10 pm
Yr 1	8:55 am	3:15 pm
Reception	9:00 am	3:20 pm
Nursery AM	8:45 am	11:30 – 11:45 am
Nursery PM	12:30 pm	3:15 – 3:30pm (30 hour children – 2:45pm)

RETURN OF COVID LAPTOPS

If your child has been given a COVID laptop to use at home, we hope that this has been helpful. Please can you bring the laptop, power pack and black case to the school office on the day your child returns to school next week. Please do not send this with your child, an adult must drop this off at main reception. Thank you.

MASK WEARING, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND THE ONE-WAY SYSTEM

Due to the infection rate in the Peterlee area being higher than in many other areas of the country, we must insist on parents wearing masks when dropping off and collecting their children. Please continue to observe social distancing rules and Mrs Beattie our new Deputy Head will be at the KS1 entrance to ensure that all parents follow the one-way system. It will be very busy at the beginning and end of the day and these rules are in place to enable everyone to keep safe. Please don't arrive early as this will only add to the congestion and mean that the staggered times won't be effective.

WORLD BOOK DAY - FRIDAY 12 MARCH

This Thursday is officially World Book Day. However, we would like to give all children the chance to enjoy this event so we are delaying our celebration until **Friday 12 March**. Children may come dressed as their favourite book character (or non-school uniform if they prefer). Classes will take part in a writing competition linked to a Mr Men book character and there will also be a Masked Reader competition.

RED NOSE DAY - FRIDAY 19 MARCH

Friday 19 March is Red Nose Day when children can come dressed in the theme of red and can wear red noses or other red nose merchandise. Staff will be planning creative lessons to give the children a day of fun and laughter. Our office staff have set up a ParentPay donation page in order for you to contribute to the fundraising without the need to bring cash into school.

EASTER EGG COMPETITION - THURSDAY 25 MARCH

We will be holding a decorated egg competition in each class. Please can you get your child to decorate an egg and send it in on this day. There will be a prize for the winner in each class.

END OF TERM - FRIDAY 26 MARCH

School will close on Friday 26 March for the Easter holidays and will re-open on Monday 12 April.