

# Newsletter



## Newsletter 3

1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children continue to be an absolute delight! They are working hard, trying their best and being good friends to each other. Our Nursery and Reception children have settled well into school and we are all enjoying getting to know them. It has been lovely to start bringing back different activities for the children too, and we plan to continue to do so, taking everything into consideration as we move forward.

I hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing weekend, and that the fuel situation has not made your lives too difficult! I did wonder whether I would be doing a taxi service, collecting all the staff in the mini bus in the mornings, but I am keeping my fingers crossed that the situation improves...



### Village Day

Thank you very much to our wonderful Maypole Dancers who performed on Saturday at Village Day. Despite only having danced together twice in 18 months, the children did really well and were very helpful and supportive towards each other. Well done too, to Tabitha Bailey, who won the poster competition. Her fantastic design has been displayed all around the village!



### Harvest Service

It was wonderful to be back at St.Giles for our Harvest Service, and to be welcomed by Philip. We enjoyed a packed service, which even included a harvest dance! The children's singing was beautiful –after months of online assemblies, they have come back together brilliantly. We really appreciate your amazing generosity in contributing items to the Codicote Food bank. Four children from Year 6 and I delivered the items there this week, where they were very gratefully received. The food bank is helping a significant number of families in the village – please do not hesitate to contact them, if you know anyone in need. The volunteers do deliveries as well as offering drop in sessions. [www.facebook.com/codicotefoodbank/](http://www.facebook.com/codicotefoodbank/)

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## Covid Update

As you will be aware from the email sent out earlier in the week, there have been covid cases in the school. We are aware that with the constant changes, the situation can be confusing for parents, so we thought it would be helpful for us to provide further guidance here. We follow the Department for Education rules in terms of policy and practice in school.

NHS guidance is available here: [When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

If a child tests positive on a PCR test, the rest of the class is able to attend school as normal. If a certain percentage of cases is reached, the class goes back into the ‘bubble’ system – now called ‘clusters’ and operates separately from the rest of the school. If there is a high number of cases across the school, the whole school returns to the ‘bubble’ system – operating as we were in the summer.

If a child feels unwell, with any of the covid symptoms, they should be kept off school and taken for a PCR test. They need to remain at home whilst waiting for the results.

If a child has been in close contact with a positive case, or lives in a home with someone who has tested positive, they need to have a PCR test. If it is negative and they are not showing any symptoms, they are able to be in school. You may wish to test regularly with a lateral flow test; if this is positive, or they develop symptoms, a PCR needs to be taken.

Work is provided for children who are having to isolate because they have had a positive test result.

I have added an outbreak management plan onto the school website, on the coronavirus page, for your interest/information: <https://codicote.herts.sch.uk/parents-families/coronavirus/>



## PTFA

It was lovely to see existing and new PTFA members at the meeting on Wednesday. We are very grateful to Sarah Tobin, who has been a fantastic chair for a number of years, and delighted that Charlie Unwin will be taking over from her in this role. Amy Turland has also been a great asset as our treasurer, and we are now expecting to need to pass this role on too, so if there is anyone interested in taking this on, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will pass on the details. All parents are welcome to attend any PTFA meetings – our next one will be on Wednesday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7 p.m.

### Next events:

- 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2021: Children’s Film Night – 6.00 p.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021: 5.00 p.m. Meet Father Christmas! Outdoor event – opportunity to meet Father Christmas and enjoy a hot drink and a snack in the fresh air! Further details to be confirmed...



### **Christmas Cards**

Thank you for sending in your children's Christmas card designs. I know it seems ridiculously early, but the deadline for returning cards is Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October. This is to ensure there is enough time for the proofs to be returned to you, so that you can decide if you would like to make an order. You do not need to send any money in at this point – just the design sheet. Whilst this is organised as a service for families, the PTFA does make a profit from everything ordered, which is used to subsidise the pantomime trip for the children at Christmas.



### **Teaching and Learning**

Next week, your child will be bringing home some information about the things they are learning at school and how you can support them. These include:

- The Curriculum Design – this shows all the different aspects which make up learning for your child at Codicote School and how everything fits together. This is also available on the website.
- Curriculum Maps – these show the topics your child will be covering in each area of the curriculum over the years.
- Year guides – These include details about the Maths, Reading and Writing the children will be learning about, and tips and ideas for helping at home.

If there is any more information you would find helpful, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. Please remember I am always happy to discuss any issues with you.

Liz Pollard  
HEADTEACHER