

Dear Parents & Carers,

As the news nationally continues to raise concerns, I wanted to write to you with some positive news stories from across our school this week. Firstly, our children are wonderful! The laughter and joy that fills our school every day is quite delightful to see and hear. The children are really thriving being back with their friends and learning in school again. It has also been great to see their independence and care of each other. They have adapted so well to the measures we have put in place to keep us all safe. We have a lovely new class 1 and a wonderful new class 1 teacher who have made a great start and are already covering their classroom walls with pictures.

This week children are excitedly preparing for our Michaelmas festival.

Kindergarten children will be celebrating on Wednesday and Thursday. Please can children wear autumnal colours on these days where possible

Main School children will be celebrating on Thursday. Please can children wear 'fire' colours e.g. red orange yellow.

This year, please do not send in contributions as we are using fruit & vegetables grown in our allotment. We are all sad that due to our COVID-19 restrictions parents will not be able to join us this year but we will be taking lots of photos to share with you at the end of the week.

Finally, I must once again say a huge thank you to our wonderful staff team. They have all worked incredibly hard to ensure that the children have a happy and successful return to school. I feel very lucky to work with such supportive colleagues and it is their hard work and dedication that has helped to make the return so warm and positive for our wonderful children.

How To Make Apple Juice—Magnus Class 3

- 1: The first thing you do is harvest the apples in baskets
- 2: Secondly, you wash the apples then you chop them
- 3: After that you put the apples in the apple press
- 4: Then you drink the sweet and delicious apple juice

A Gentle Reminder – Punctuality

Please can I remind you that our requirements as a school are to:

“Reduce contact between parents when dropping off and picking up their children for example by limiting drop off and pick up to one parent per family.”

Please make every effort to arrive punctually at the beginning and at the end of the day to avoid crossover between families and children. If you do arrive early, please either wait in your car or at a distance from the school and each other.

Please be mindful of our neighbours and not park in front of their driveways.

Moving Schools September 2021.

Parents of children in Class 5 should have received information about applying for places in maintained secondary schools and academies next September. Online applications are now open for places at maintained schools and academies and close on 31st October 2020. Details of how to apply can be found [here](#).

Diary Dates	
End of Term 1	Friday 23rd October 2020: 3:15pm
Term 2 Begins	Monday 9th November 2020
End of Term 2	Wednesday 16th December 2020: 12:45pm



COVID-19 Updates

Bubbles and potential class closure

As you are aware, we are working very hard to keep each of our bubbles separate during the school day so that should we need to close one of them due to a positive case of coronavirus, we would be confident that no other bubble has been in contact with that child.

We fully appreciate that as many parents are back at their place of work, childcare can be a challenge. However, please can we ask that you bear this in mind when organising play dates or social gatherings? In the event of a positive case, our local health protection team would be likely to advise that anyone who has been in close contact with that child would also need to self-isolate for 14 days. Thank you.

What to do if you have symptoms?

As you will all be aware, there has been a clear increase in the numbers of positive cases across the country. This includes positive cases which have had a direct impact on a few schools locally. As cases rise, so will some people's levels of concern. It is therefore crucial that parents and carers remain vigilant to the recognised signs of COVID-19 (see below), inform the school immediately and support everyone by following the measures we have put in place in and around the site.

Main symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus 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.

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 or more of these symptoms.

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus: Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible. Inform the school and stay at home. Do not have visitors until you get your test result and only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.

What happens if there is a suspected or confirmed COVID case in school?

I also wanted to take the opportunity to share with you once again what happens if there is a suspected or confirmed case of coronavirus within the school.

Firstly, it is really important that if your child or a member of their family is showing symptoms of COVID-19, the whole household (and support bubble if applicable) isolate immediately (this may need to be for up to 14 days).

Subsequently, you should arrange for a test for anyone showing symptoms and inform the school immediately.

If the test result is positive, please ensure that you inform us immediately. This helps us manage the clearly defined process that we have to follow.

If the test is negative, the children can return to school and members of their household can stop isolating.

A test can be arranged by calling 119 or using the NHS online portal.

With any suspected or confirmed case, we will always contact the South West Local Health Protection Team (Public Health England) for advice. If the test outcome is positive, we will communicate this to parents of the affected year group bubble(s) following PHE guidelines and advice

With Best Wishes

Ruth Glover

Headteacher

Bristol Steiner School