



Slindon Church of England Primary School

March 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

We are so looking forward to seeing you all on Monday. This feels like it might be the first step towards some normality, which we are all desperate for. We are thankful for all you have done in supporting your child/children with remote learning this term. We know the challenges many of you have faced, juggling work with home learning. I am, as always, thankful to the hard work and dedication of our staff in supporting you as best we can as we've made our way through such difficult times together.

The information on page two are reminders of all the procedures within our risk assessments, that must remain in place. These are the same procedures that were in place at the end of the Autumn Term. Please do read these carefully to remind yourselves. We hope that by the time we get to the summer term, we can enjoy more of what we are usually able to, at this time of the year.

I want to be very clear that we expect all members of our school community to adhere to the existing guidelines. We ask that parents and carers wear masks correctly and adhere to social distancing guidelines. Please do not come into the school building via the front office unless absolutely necessary and with the exception of Catkin Class parents/ carers, we ask you to remain behind the school gate for dropping off and collecting your child/ children.

Attendance is mandatory from Monday 8th March 2021, so unless we see a letter advising your child to shield, we expect to see all children in school. We will be ready to welcome them with (socially distanced) open arms!

Lucy Cooper (Headteacher)

Staggered start and end of day procedures

Class	Start Time	Finish Time	Drop off Location	Entry/ Exit door
Chestnut (Years 5 & 6)	8.40am	3.25pm	School Gate	The Glade
Acorn (Years 3 & 4)	8.45am	3.20pm	School Gate	Main front door
Catkin (Reception, Years 1 & 2)	8.50am	3.15pm	Playground	Catkin playground door

Siblings may come straight through the main door together at 8.45am

PE

PE will continue to be on a Tuesday for all children and will take place outside for the remainder of the year. Children should continue to come to school dressed in weather appropriate clothing that enables them to move freely. This is expected to be their usual PE kits as the weather gets warmer.

My Coyle will continue to lead PE for all classes, ensuring he stays 2-metres from all staff and children who are not in his Acorn Class bubble. He will ensure that each bubble uses separate equipment each week.

School Uniform

We would like the children to wear school uniform, including school shoes, when they return. But due to the fact that the children may have outgrown their Autumn uniform and retail is not yet fully open, children will be able to continue to come to school in non-uniform and may wear suitable alternative footwear. We are expecting another bout of cold weather and so the children need to be dressed in layers, as we continue to keep all doors and windows open for ventilation.

Collective Worship/ Assembly

As per the DfE guidelines, we will not come together as a whole school for assembly and collective worship. Children will remain in their class bubbles for assemblies. We hope that in the summer term, further guidance will allow us to come together as a whole school once again.

Remote Learning

As from Monday 8th March 2021 remote learning will no longer be available to all children. Only children who have been advised to shield or are self-isolating will be able to access remote learning. **Please remember to return any Chromebooks that were on loan from the school.**

Risk Assessment– Prevention

We are continuing to ensure that the school building is well ventilated with all doors and windows open. We continue to follow guidelines with regard to social distancing between ourselves as staff and in encouraging the children in Key Stage 2 (Acorn and Chestnut Class) to do so too. Visitors to school will be restricted to reduce the risk of transmission of Coronavirus. There are posters displayed at the entrance of the school with guidance for visitors. **Risk assessments have been revised and will be available to view on the school website by Friday 5th March 2021.**

Lateral Flow Testing (Rapid Self Testing)

In January, staff at our school along with colleagues nationwide in Primary Schools, began testing at home twice a week using Lateral Flow Tests. These tests are used to detect asymptomatic COVID-19 cases and are crucial in the fight against the virus. We are grateful that all staff are engaging in the Lateral Flow Testing as testing is not mandatory, but provides another measure to contain the spread of Coronavirus and keep our school community safe.



Mr Coyle's PE update

As we return to school, I am very excited to hear all the stories of bike rides, woodland walks and snow day antics. This time apart I am sure has been testing not only physically but mentally as well. Darker evenings and colder weather can put us off getting outside at times and staying inside can feel safer and certainly warmer. However, it has been amazing to see so many pictures and videos of children getting out and enjoying the outdoor environment. The feeling of joy we experience from a brisk cold walk or muddy puddle splash, outweighs the resistance to want to get chilly or wet. I hope everyone has kept safe in this period, I have seen joy in faces and excitement from our live sessions and weekly challenges that we have run and want to thank and applaud all parents for all they have done. It may not feel like it at the moment but what the children have experienced will remain memories for a lifetime, from those bike rides together, muddy walks and games as a family you have all done incredibly well!

Weekly Challenges

During lockdown we have been setting weekly challenges to try at home, some of which have resulted in me having big challenges of my own. Seeing the enthusiasm that the children have demonstrated to do these challenges fills all the teachers with pride and admiration. It is hard sometimes when it rains or is cold, for us to feel like we want to go outside for some exercise, but I have seen some truly marvellous efforts! 1000 star jumps and 15km cycle rides, 2 mile runs and 1000 skips certainly show me that you are all ready to take on a challenge and give everything a try.

In particular we would like to congratulate Oliver Sier on his skipping champion trophy after his very impressive 1001 skips! The trophy pictured below will be engraved with Oliver's name and going home with Oliver for a week and it would be great to see a picture of him with it!



However, we cannot pick out just Oliver who has shone, because so many of you have, so I would just like to say well done to everyone who has given our challenges a try, I applaud you all and there are still plenty more trophies to be won as we approach the summer term!

There is lots to look forward to over the next couple of half terms where I hope the sun will keep shining for us and we can get outside as much as possible! I am also eager to run a couple of after school clubs so keep an eye out for information regarding these!

Keep positive and see you all very soon!

Mr Coyle

IVY THE SCHOOL DOG



Ivy is continuing with her training as a school dog and has been visiting children and staff in the classrooms. On some mornings Ivy will be greeting children at the school gate. If you see Ivy please do not approach her as this is an integral part of her training to be the best school dog ever!

Please remember that dogs, other than Ivy, are not allowed on the school site.



Slindon Church of England Primary School Facebook Page



We are using the facebook page this year to give parents/carers another way of seeing what's happening in school. The page won't be used to answer questions or communicate

Not sure what's going on at school?

Keep an eye on our school website, including the school calendar where you can find all the information you need.

www.slindonprimary.co.uk



Important Dates to Remember for the Spring Term 2

Remember you can keep an eye on the calendar on our school website by just googling it from your mobile phone— you don't need to log in to do this. Texts are sometimes sent out as a helpful reminder.

- Thursday 4th March— World Book Day (dress as a book character at home or at school)
- Friday 19th March— Red Nose Day (separate letter to be sent out next week)
- Thursday 1st April— Last day of Spring Term
- Monday 19th April— First day of the Summer Term

SLINDON
CHURCH OF
ENGLAND
PRIMARY
SCHOOL



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Please remember to contact the school immediately if your child or a member of your household develops coronavirus symptoms. We can help direct you or advise on the appropriate procedures. We also have a number of testing kits here at school, should you not be able to access a test quickly.

