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## 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

What an incredible first week that we have had back at school. It has been lovely to see our school running at full capacity. The building has come to life once again and it has been wonderful to see and hear.

Thank you to all of our families who have adhered to the staggered timings and wearing a face covering if you have entered the school premises via either gate.

Thank you also to the staff who have never stopped and continue to ensure that children are: safe, happy and learning.

Our children have come back to school to another new normal and have once again taken it in their stride. They have been happy to see their friends and teachers and have really enjoyed their first week back.

I am sure that all of our school community will look forward to a well-deserved weekend after such a busy but brilliant first week back.

Bernadette

### Easter Holidays

**Please note that school closes on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021 for the Easter Holidays. There will be no After School Club on this day**

### Tapestry Update- Return to School March 8<sup>th</sup>

We will continue to use Tapestry to share children's work, letters, messages and our parents can continue to use it too. Please remember the following to support us and you too:

#### DO

- Do message if you want to share something positive from home
- Do message if you have a small query or would like to find out something simple
- Do message if your child has any minor worries, for example: *'Jack didn't quite understand fractions today, could you please point me in the direction of where I can get some further practise work for him'*

#### DON'T

- Please do not use Tapestry app to raise an issue, please contact the school office in the usual way: [enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk)
- Please do not message via Tapestry to notify school of absences or illnesses - this should be done via the school office as normal
- Please do not use Tapestry to message about any urgent or serious issues; please use the school office and normal school procedures for this. Remember in most cases your child's class teacher will have responsibility for the whole class while your child is isolating so will only be able to access the app before or after the school teaching day.

#### REMEMBER

Teachers will always endeavour to reply as quickly as possible. However, please bear in mind that school life can be incredibly busy and whilst every effort will be made to reply or acknowledge messages, there may be a slight delay on occasion. Additionally, please do not expect a reply to any messages sent after 4pm or on a weekend as teachers will not be able to reply.

### Attendance from March 8<sup>th</sup>

With the return to school for all, please see the up to date guidance for parents about attendance. The link to the full document can be found [here](#)

*From 8 March all children and students should return to school or college and attendance will be mandatory once again from this date.*

*If you are a parent of a child who is vulnerable or if you are a critical worker, your child should continue to be able to attend school throughout, unless they receive a positive test result.*

*Mandatory attendance means that it is your legal duty as a parent to send your child (if they are of compulsory school age) to school regularly if they are registered at one.*

*Local authorities and schools have a range of [legal powers to enforce attendance](#) if a child or young person misses school without a valid reason.*

*We know some parents will be feeling anxious about their children returning to school or college. If you have concerns about your child attending, you should discuss these with your school or college. They should be able to explain ways they are changing things to reduce risks.*

### Punctuality

Nursery children (morning + 30 hours) and siblings should arrive promptly at 8.30am before the register closes. All other children must arrive in time for the register closing at 8.50am. If your child is late, they will receive a L code. If a child arrives after 9.10am, this will be recorded as a U and will affect the percentage recorded on your child's report. We know that there are unexpected events that may cause families to be late but we would ask all of our families to arrive on time as far as possible.

### Mental Health Resources

Nicola, our PSHE Co Ordinator, has been busy putting together resources to support all of our families. These can be found in the PSHE section of our website by going to

<http://www.thegroveprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/our-curriculum/pshe/> We hope that you find them useful.

### LFD (Lateral Flow Device) Tests for Families

Some families have been asking about LFD tests for the parents in their household. If you click the link [here](#) this will give you more information regarding tests been made available to parents, child care bubbles and support bubbles.

Please be aware that we are not asking families to complete the tests but thought that it was important to provide the link to additional information.

### LFD (Lateral Flow Device) Tests for Staff

Please be aware that staff at The Grove Primary School, along with all primary schools nationally are participating in LFD (Lateral Flow Device) testing. This is part of the government's drive to identify and isolated anyone who could be carrying (and therefore passing on) the covid19 virus, in order to further limit community transmission and drive infection rates down. Parents should be aware that this has the potential for more of our year groups to close if asymptomatic carriers are identified, as they and close contacts will be required to isolate by NHS test and trace. We would ask parents to have a back up plan for children isolating should a year group/bubble is asked to close.