

### DIARY DATES

**\*\*ALL DATES ARE PROVISIONAL IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC\*\***

Sunday 14th March	Mothering Sunday
Friday 19th March	Comic Relief
Thursday 1st April	Easter Service (in-school video call)
Thursday 1st April	School closes for the Easter holiday
Monday 19th April	School opens for the summer term
Monday 3rd May	May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
Friday 28th May	School closes for half-term
Monday 7th June	School re-opens



### WE ARE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN!

We are absolutely thrilled to welcome back all of our amazing pupils and to see so many parents and carers once again. It has been a challenging time for many during this period of lockdown and to be back in school is wonderful!

It has been lovely to help children to learn in school and at home this term, and thank you for your support. However, we are sure that you agree that having all of the children back in school is so exciting. Smiles are everywhere to be seen in school!



Can we say a big 'thank you' and a 'well done' for all of the hard work, effort and time spent in supporting your child's learning, whether they have been in school, or at home. This period has been challenging for many children and we continue to offer help and pastoral care. If your child is finding things tricky, please speak with their class teacher.

The children have, quite simply, been '**owwwwtstanding**' this week! However, we are sure that there may be a few tired eyes this weekend!

Some of the children have shared how they feel to have the school family back together again:

Archie, *"I feel amazing! It's good to be back with my friends and to see my teacher. It's just great!"*

Emily E., *"I feel good to be back because I can see my friends and it is more fun learning in school than on a laptop!"*

Sam, *"I am happy to be back because I can see my friends again."*

Amelia J., *"I like being back in school because it is fun!"*

Maddison B., *"I am happy that I am back and I can see my friends."*

Milton, *"It is amazing to have everyone in school, so we can be together and learn together."*

Molly, *"It feels really good to be back in school. I can see my friends again and learn with them."*

On behalf of the team, **thank you** for so brilliantly preparing your child for their return to school. We have seen so many big smiles from the moment we first opened the gates. This is a testament to how carefully and lovingly you have spoken with them to put them at ease. Thank you!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUUUUUUUU!

Now we are all back together in school at the moment, please join us in sharing our 'Happy Birthday' wishes (in our best singing voices) with the following members of the school family who celebrate a birthday between 22nd February and today (12th March).

Happy Birthday: Rory, Esmée, Henry, Jay, Noah, Jarvy, Charlie C., Miss Keeling, Mrs Burton and Mrs Goodwin.



## KINGSLEY KINGFISHERS COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

Did you know that Kingsley Kingfishers is run by a voluntary management committee?

We've not been as active as usual over the last 12 months due to the dreaded Covid but we have been beavering away behind the scenes. We meet every couple of months, in person when we can and on Zoom when we can't, and help out with the running of the preschool, fundraising and recruiting new staff.



It's a rewarding role and gives you the chance to have a real part in the preschool your child attends.

Several of our current committee members will be stepping down at the AGM as their children no longer attend the setting.

Without a committee there can be no preschool so can you help with a few hours here and there?

If you would like to find out more, email [committeekingfishers@yahoo.com](mailto:committeekingfishers@yahoo.com)

## HOME TEST KITS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

NHS Test and Trace have announced that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Schools cannot give test kits to parents, carers or household members.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus.

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees;
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests;
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes.

For further details, visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

If you have any queries about the tests, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

**Children of primary school age without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.**

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

## IMPORTANT SCHOOL TIMINGS

Please can we urge anyone who is collecting your child/children from school to only **arrive at the times for the relevant class**. By arriving early it creates a gathering of too many adults, adds to the risk level, and means that some adults will have to walk past you to collect their child.

Children will leave school in the class order below:



	Car park gate			Front gate	
	Arrive	Collect		Arrive	Collect
Year 1	8.40am	3.20pm	Year 3	8.40am	3.15pm
Year 2	8.45am	3.25pm	Years 4/5	8.45am	3.20pm
Reception	8.50am	3.15pm	Year 6	8.50am	3.25pm

## STAYING NUT FREE

As you know, a member of our school family has shown a severe allergy to nuts. To keep everyone safe in school, please ensure that you **do not send in any nuts, or nut-based snacks/lunch** for your child. All products which you buy in shops have a list of ingredients, and on these it will if they contain nuts. If they do, please do not send them into school as **they cannot be eaten on site**. If you are unsure if something contains nuts, please play it safe and leave this at home.

This decision is to keep everyone safe, which is something that each of us want.

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May we wish all of the mums, mummys, carers, grandmas, nans, grannys, godmothers, aunts, big sisters, and all who are special at home, a very Happy Mother's Day for this Sunday!

Hopefully you will enjoy breakfast in bed, be able to keep your feet up all day, and be well and truly spoilt!

After all, you deserve it!



## EVERY MIND MATTERS

Every Mind Matters is a new resource from the brilliant NHS which has lots of information to help during this unusual period. It contains practical tips and videos from experts on dealing with stress and anxiety, boosting your mood, dealing with change, coping with money worries, sleeping better and looking after your wellbeing.

[www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters)

## Y4/5 ON THEIR BIKES

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March, myself and Year 4 completed Bikeability training with Alan, who was our instructor. We learnt how to stop, how to get our pedals ready and how to correctly maintain our bikes. Once we had completed our bike maintenance check, we learnt how to signal on our bikes and how to manoeuvre around others without crashing into them! We had so much fun and Alan was a great instructor.

*by Iyla*

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March, myself and Year 5 went out on the roads with our bikes and learnt lots of new and exciting skills, including U-turns and how to give way. We were really lucky to have such fantastic Bikeability instructors, who were really patient and helpful. My favourite skill that I learnt was how to safely exit a main road to join a minor road.

*by Oliver J.*



## STAY SAFE, STAY SMART, STAY 2 METRES APART!

Please can we ask all adults to remain 2 metres apart and please do not gather at school as this is causing additional risk to you and to others, especially those trying to walk past you.

We can each play our part in keeping one another safe.

**..love one another.**



## PARENT PORTAL

Our new Arbor Parent Portal can be used to access your child/children's profiles and to top-up your child's dinner and Wraparound accounts.

All outstanding balances/credits have been added to your child's accounts for you to see; we would appreciate any outstanding payments being made as soon as possible.

Moving forward, we kindly ask that you 'top-up' as much as possible online and avoid sending cash payments to school.

Hopefully, you are finding this new system to be helpful and convenient. If, however, you are having trouble accessing or navigating the site, please contact us - we will be happy to help.

## WHO IS BEHIND THE MASK?

Children have taken part in the 'Masked Reader' as part of our celebrations of World Book Day...you may have also seen this in this week's Times and Echo! Seven staff were very excited to read extracts from a children's book and using the magic of technology, were transformed into food, animals and more!

Did you guess who were: Orange, Pigeon, Wotsit, Pig, Sheep, Grogu (like a baby Yoda) and Cat?

Pictures can be seen in the website News section if you need a reminder.



## A LITTLE HELPING HAND WITH MEALS

Many families may have experienced a change in circumstances at this time. Whichever year group your child is in, if you think that you may now be eligible for income-based Free School Meals, we would urge you to check and, if so, submit an application. This **also** applies to children who currently receive a lunch due to being in Reception, or Years 1 and 2.

To find out if you are eligible, or to apply for this additional support, please visit:

[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals)



## A LITTLE MORE HELP

**Digital Parenting Support:** free online support for parents with children of all ages. This includes a "chat" facility with parenting coaches who offer professional advice and support. Within this service there is also online information for mental health, parenting, dealing with parental conflict, what I need to know about the Covid-19 situation and practical home learning and activity ideas. For more info please see the website:

[www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk](http://www.parents.actionforchildren.org.uk)

**Materials to help support your child's emotional well-being following the COVID-19 pandemic - for parents and carers**

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/advice.page?id=4Pf3vU6K9yM>

**Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub** – created to offer help for families in the Staffordshire Moorlands answering questions, helping you to find support and share ideas for coping with life in lockdown. [www.facebook.com/staffordshiremoorlandsfamilyhub](https://www.facebook.com/staffordshiremoorlandsfamilyhub)

## COVID-19 SYMPTOMS - SELF-ISOLATION

Should your child, or any member of the household (or anyone your child may have been in contact with) display any symptoms of Covid-19, please do not bring them into school until any self-isolation period is fully complete. Should anyone in the household develop symptoms, please arrange a test as soon as possible. If your child has been in school the days prior to the test, or the days prior to the symptoms beginning, please let us know so we can follow our necessary procedures to minimise risk.

**Please stay safe.**



**CORONAVIRUS  
SYMPTOMS?**

Do **not** visit A&E or your GP Practice.

Please call 119 or visit  
[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)  
to book a test.





## STAYING SAFE ON THE ROADS

As much of our exercise is still limited to going for a walk, it's important to **Be Bright and Be Seen** when you are out and about near roads.

**BE BRIGHT** – wear fluorescent or brightly-coloured clothing when exercising or walking to and from school – it shows up well in daylight and at dusk.

**REFLECTIVE** – When it's dark outside, wear reflective clothing to be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well.

**IMPROVE** – improve your visibility with accessories. Clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers added to your coat or bag are a great way to improve your visibility.

**GREEN CROSS CODE** – always choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to use the Green Cross Code.

**HEADLIGHTS** – if you like to cycle, it's the law to have clean and working headlights on your bike at night (white at the front, red at the back) and a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.

## PARKING SAFELY

As we return to having all of the children back in school, please can we remind everyone to park carefully and considerately around the school site and only for as long as it takes to drop-off.

Yellow zig zags and yellow lines are on the road to keep everyone safe, please, please respect these. We know that all members of our school family want to keep each other safe. We can all help to do so by driving and parking carefully outside school. That moment of, "I'll be alright here for a minute" could change for "I'll park where it is a little safer" - such a small decision could make a big difference!

Currently, our school times are staggered which also reduces the need for so many cars to be here at once. If we can avoid driving to school, we not only keep ourselves healthier, we also help the environment and reduce risk caused by too much traffic. It also gives a lovely additional time to spend chatting with your child whilst exercising.

We have received concern about parents parking on the zig-zags and the danger this could cause. **Please** park responsibly and considerately and keep the children and other members of our school and community nice and safe,

## LENT

This weekend marks the Fourth Sunday of Lent, a special time of preparation and waiting. Lent lasts for forty days and represents Jesus' time in the desert, fasting and praying. During this time, we learn from how Jesus was tempted several times by Satan, but was able to resist.

... love God...



## THANK YOU AND STAY SAFE

Thank you for supporting your child's return to a full school and helping them to overcome any nerves or uncertainty. Thank you also for the caring messages received, they are very thoughtful and mean a lot to the team.

Please look after yourself this weekend, stay nice and safe, and please keep being brilliant!

Have a beautiful weekend, stay safe, enjoy Mother's Day, and we will see you on Monday!

**Love to learn, love God, love one another.**

