



Head Teacher: Kirsti Ashman  
Dill Avenue, Cheltenham, GL510ES  
T 01242 525616  
E [head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk)  
WWW. Hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for Diary 2021

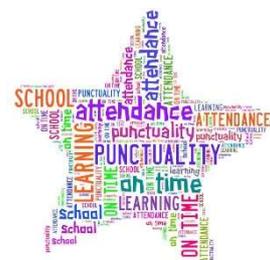
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – Start of Spring Term 4 - staggered drop off times continue

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – Comic Relief "Red Nose Day" – non-uniform day

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – End of Spring Term 4 finish at 1.30pm

## Attendance

We are so pleased to have had an amazing return to school. We now need to keep everyone's fantastic attendance up for the rest of the academic year. The children need to recall, practise, "catch up" and access new learning, as quickly as possible. Our teachers plan sequenced learning journeys with steps to final outcomes, so if a child misses 1 day this can affect the process of their learning. A huge thank you to parents/carers for getting the children to school every-day.

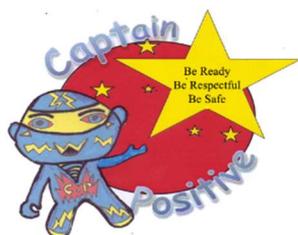


## Return to School

Teaching and Pastoral Staff have been mindful of the children's well-being and they are re-introducing them to routines and the "school timetable". We have noticed the need to re-build their stamina and concentration levels. We are so proud of their resilience and ability to re-join in their class bubbles and get back to school life, still smiling!

Thank you for getting the children back to their school sleep patterns. Some top tips, if you need them include:

- *Limit how much TV you watch close to bedtime and avoid watching programmes or films that have upsetting or scary content; use the PEGI ratings <https://pegi.info/what-do-the-labels-mean>*
- *Avoid sugary foods or drinks in the evening, as well as those with caffeine (tea, coffee, cola)*
- *Leave mobile phones or other devices in another room, ideally downstairs if you live in a house; have an agreed wifi cut off time*
- *Have a set bedtime routine to get washed, brush teeth and ready for bed*
- *Listen to some soothing music*
- *Listen to or read a calming story*



Teaching staff have reminded the children about our behaviour expectations "Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe!" They have commented on their classes still having fantastic manners, being kind and helping each other. Well done to our pupils!

## Year 6 Offer

To make the rest of the Year 6 pupils time at our school, special and memorable, the Year 6 Teaching Team have planned the "Year 6 Offer", incorporating curriculum, active challenges, enrichment and class rewards. There are behaviour rewards planned for those individuals who are "always" on Gold (Captain Positive), as well as the whole class. The aim is for the children to reconnect with each other and work together for common aims and goals. Focus is on the curriculum for them to "catch up" and for new learning, to be secondary school ready. Transition is prioritised for secondary school. At the heart of offer is the pupils' positive mental and physical well-being, being key for them to be successful learners.

Thank you to the Year 6 Team for setting this up – we look forward to sharing their celebrations with you! Aspire, believe, care and achieve Year 6!



### Home Learning

Please can we ask that you email your class teachers or [head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk) with photos and work that you are willing to share on social media and the school website. We would like to share the fantastic work achieved. Also, please bring in anymore work packs from home, as we are hoping to have a celebration assembly this term to award certificates/prizes for doing such great learning at home. We are so proud of everyone!

### Comic Relief

We would like the children to be a part of Comic Relief and wear non-uniform on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March. Please can we ask that you to make donations, directly to the charity, by visiting their website <https://www.comicrelief.com/> . The teaching staff will share Comic Relief activities with the children. If your child normally has PE on that day please can they wear sports bottoms.

Trainers to be worn for other daily activity for all.



### Ofsted Inspection

When Ofsted confirm their intentions of visits, we will be one of the first schools to have an inspection, no doubt, as this was due last January. We are very grateful for the questionnaire feedback that you have already shared about our remote/home learning. The teachers have been so appreciative of parent and carer's kind emails and messages of thanks. It is also very important that you share any need for improvement so that we can improve.

We will send out an Ofsted questionnaire shortly. You can use <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> at any time. This can be found at the bottom of our "Home" page on the school website.

Our school community's ultimate aims are to have safe, happy and achieving children.

In the first instance email class teachers with any feedback, comments, appreciation or issues, if you have done this already or feel that it is a matter for the Head Teacher then please email [head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@hestersway.gloucs.sch.uk). Please see our complaints policy on the school website: <https://hesterswayprimaryschool.co.uk/policies/>

## Remain vigilant

**Even though vaccinations are taking place, the virus can still be spread to those not vaccinated, or awaiting their second vaccine. We should not become complacent.**



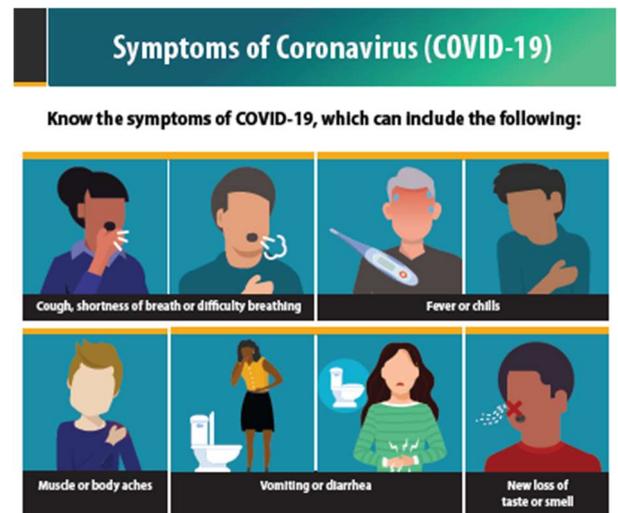
Please continue to inform us, if your child or anyone in the household has symptoms or tests positive for Covid-19. We are aware that the government can announce and make changes at a moments notice, so we want to be aware of any cases, to protect everyone and offer any support.

## Symptoms

If any child or family member has the Covid-19 symptoms, please continue to test if they have:  
a high temperature, hot to the touch on chest or back - no need to measure temperature  
a new, continuous cough  
a loss, or change in sense of smell or taste

## Getting a Test and Self-Isolating

If your child or any member of the household is showing any symptoms call 119 or visit the 119 website to book to attend a GCC mobile testing site or get a home testing kit. Please self-isolate the household until the test results are negative or for 10 days or until well.



<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/covid-19-information-and-advice/mobile-testing-unit-locations/>

## Staff Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)

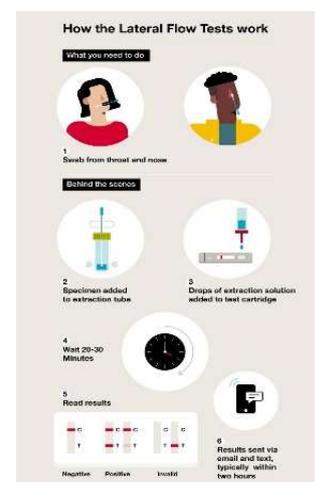
Consenting staff will be carrying out LFT Covid-19 testing, twice a week, in order to try and prevent the potential spread of Covid-19. There is now more awareness of asymptomatic people (potentially 1 in 3 people) carrying and transmitting the virus.

We are aware that this could affect on our staffing, if staff test positive with an LFT they then have to seek a PCR Covid-19 test. Their household and the school "bubble" group they have worked with will also self-isolate.

This is another protective, but not preventative measure.

You can also order these for your child to do, however this is your choice and responsibility. If the result is positive you have to book a Covid test through 119 and self-isolate the household and support bubble. If two voids, with no control line, a Covid test must be booked.

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>



## Art Week

We have Art week this week and the children will be practising and learning new skills. Please can we ask that they bring in an old top or shirt so that their uniforms do not get dirty. We do have aprons, if you do not have anything at home.

The school have just purchased a new scheme of work by KAPOW. It includes videos and progression of skills.

We love displaying our pupil's art work around school and we look forward to sharing their outcomes with you, online.



## Technical Issues

Please bear with us as we have some technical difficulties with our phone line and internet connection. External agencies are looking into this and we hope to get this sorted ASAP.

Stay safe everyone!

Miss Kirsti Ashman and the HWPS Team

