



Newsletter 24

17 March 2022

WIMBORNE
Academy Trust

Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may well be aware that this week we have seen a dramatic increase in covid cases both with children and staff. Just as we were getting into the swing of whole school assemblies back in the hall, we have moved back to remote assemblies all on the screen. We are experiencing exceptionally high staff absences at the end of this week, which will impact us for the first few days of next week too, possibly all week. We always do everything we can to minimise the disruption to the children and try to create continuity for them. I would like to say thank you to all the staff who are always happy to step and go above and beyond. Merley has the most fantastic team that pulls together and helps each other.

Unfortunately, I need to make you aware that if staff absence continues to rise over the weekend we may have to make the very difficult decision to close a class. Please know this decision would only be made in the very last instance when all possibilities of having a teacher with a class has been exhausted and for the very shortest amount of time possible.

On a more positive note, thank you to everyone that contributed towards the Ukraine donations. Our staffroom was filled with bags which went to Allenbourn Middle school this morning. Allenbourn have said they will pass on details of where the donations were sent to, but I hear collectively there was a school minibus packed full! Today has been lovely to see splashes of red across the school as we celebrate Red Nose Day. Thank you for your contributions which are currently totalling £186.00.

This week Mrs Marshall, teaching assistant in Butterfly class, has announced she will be leaving us at the end of this term. I know Mrs Marshall has been a wonderful, nurturing member of the Reception team, who the children adore. We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to her and she will be greatly missed, but wish her well as she starts a new role closer to home.

It is looking like we will have a lovely sunny weekend. I hope you are able to enjoy it in some way,

Katharine Anstey
Headteacher



Safeguarding and Online Safety

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you are unable to contact a member of the school team and you wish to pass on serious concern, please call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 735046 We are an Operation Encompass school, to find out more please follow the link [here](#)





Place2Be is a charity to improve children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. Their website is a brilliant source of information for parents, carers and professionals.

They have recently added a fantastic web page giving parenting advice on a wide range of topics such as help with battles around mealtimes, developing routines and anxiety:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Place2Be have suggested some top tips to support children's wellbeing in particular with reference to the last two years of the covid pandemic:

1. Remind children of everything they want to achieve and do in their lives.
2. Teach resilience, they, and us, have experienced so much, not being able to see friends and family, do their normal activities and clubs and all the things they love. Use questions such as "What can we do to help you feel calm?" "What can we do to make you smile?"
3. Be a role model, when we respond calmly to a situation (even if we don't feel calm!) and show "we can cope with this" children will respond in the same way.
4. Help children to try new things (and us!) like making a cake, riding a bike, playing with something new, anything at all you think your children might like.
5. Create time to talk - even if it is 5 minutes before bedtime.

Forthcoming Diary Dates

SPRING TERM 2022

March

Thursday 31st March Celebration of Learning 2.45pm - 3.15pm
All welcome to visit classrooms

April

Friday 8th April 2.30pm Easter refreshments
Monday 11th - Friday 22nd April **Easter Holidays**

May

Monday 9th May - Class photos
Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June **Half term**

June

Monday 6th June - Staff training day

July

Friday 1st July Transfer Day
Thursday 21st July Last day of term

