

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to have all of the children back in school. I have been so impressed by the positive and enthusiastic manner in which the children have returned. In my discussions with many of them over the past few days, it is clear that they are pleased to see their friends and have the social interactions so many of them missed over the past few weeks. The children are all working well and getting back into the routines of school life.

As always at WF there some exciting projects we are working on. During this term all of the children will be working on a whole school art project, inspired by the Californian street artist Thank you X. The work will involve lots of talking, sharing ideas, creative thinking and hopefully a whole school art piece which we will put on display. We will also be working on an initiative begun at the start of the school year, on waste reduction. Next week, our children will have the opportunity to meet via zoom with children from a school in India who are also working on the waste reduction project.

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March it is Red Nose Day. We will be taking part in this charity event by inviting the children to wear red for the day, holding class races outdoors and holding a whole school zoom session to tell jokes to each other!... If you would like to donate to Red Nose Day you can do so through a link below,  
<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=2982>

#### Staffing news

Mrs Helen Yaxley, a member of our staff team has decided the time has come for her to retire at the end of this term. Helen joined our school as a teaching assistant 21 years ago. She has been a valued member of our school throughout this time. She has supported so many of our children and their families over the years - it is hard to think of WF without Helen being here. For many years Helen was also a member of the governing body representing non-teaching staff. Her work as a governor was so helpful in supporting our school to grow and develop. Under the current restrictions we are unable to give Helen the traditional WF send-off but we are planning to be able to do this in July when hopefully the restrictions will be lifted. In the meantime, I am sure you will join me in wishing Helen every happiness in her retirement.

#### PTA meeting

The PTA will be holding their next meeting this evening at 7.30pm via zoom, please contact the school office if you would like the link to join the meeting, all are welcome.

#### COVID Update

##### **Home testing kits to support the return to school**

The government has announced that all households with primary and secondary school and college-aged children and young people, including childcare and support bubbles, will be encouraged to start regular twice-weekly rapid lateral flow testing as schools return on 8 March.

Tests are available for **adults in these households**, to order online please visit:

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

These can be delivered to their home or collected at a local **symptomatic PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test site**. These PCR sites are where people go to get tested when they have symptoms of COVID-19 and because of that, collection of these home test kits is set for 1pm - 7pm when testing of symptomatic people will not be taking place.

The PCR local testing sites (LTS) and regional testing site (RTS) offering the collection of home testing kits (referred to as LTS-collect and RTS-collect) in Oxfordshire are:

**Regional testing site (drive-through)**

Oxford Parkway, Water Eaton Park & Ride, Oxford Road, Oxford, OX2 8HA

**Local testing sites (walk-through)**

Woodgreen Leisure Centre, Woodgreen Avenue, Banbury, OX16 0HS

Osney Lane, Oxford, OX1 1NY

Woodford Way car park, Witney, OX28 6JS

You do not need to make an appointment, but you can check online by visiting:

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk> if the location is open or busy before you go. A reminder collection is 1pm - 7pm. In Oxfordshire, home tests kits **cannot currently be collected from the county council's symptom-free testing sites**, which are Spiceball Leisure Centre (Banbury), The Beacon (Wantage), The King's Centre (Oxford). **Please do not go to one of these sites** as the kits they have are not suitable for home use. We will keep you posted if this changes.

Although we are all back to school we must also remember we are still in a national lockdown and we must continue to observe the rules regarding meeting up with other households and maintaining a social distance from each other. The current rules regarding what we can and can't do can be found by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

The number of cases in our area is low compared to the number of cases in early January. If we continue to follow the rules, we can further weaken the transmission of the virus and keep our community safe.

With best wishes

Deborah Nind and the WF team