

## St Bridget's C of E Primary School

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"Love your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:27

#### 5-4-22

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week Year 3 are leading our Easter service and are marking the end of Lent and our "40 Days of Giving" project. Each class has collected a box of items for the Charles Thompson Mission. Every class has collected a full box of items and thank you for all of your support for this. Later this week on Friday morning at 8.45am, our choir will sing in the Peace Garden to continue to raise funds for UNICEF and their work worldwide to keep children safe from danger. Link to donate to UNICEF

#### **Covid Update**

In school we continue to deal with cases of Covid with both children and staff. I know this is a challenge for every school and there have been occasions recently where there have been no cover staff available across the Wirral. I am just trying to illustrate the fact that this year has not been a complete 'return to normal' and challenges remain.

# Changes to measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the <u>next steps</u> for living with COVID-19 in England from Friday 1 April. Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April.

#### **Updated DFE Covid guidance**

- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus like other respiratory infections, thanks to the



success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

### For education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April:

Regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits.

### **Balloon Launch**

Once again, we working with our IT provider to launch a balloon into space. This is a project that the whole school finds out about with Year 5 and Year 6 taking control of the launch and running mission control. We will track the balloons flight and take photos of space. The balloon is helium filled and at some point, will burst and return to earth. Our ICT crew will track it down and collect all of the data. This is always an exciting few days for the school and we will update after the expedition.

### Staffing

Sadly, Mrs Coakley Hines has had to take early retirement due to ill health. She has worked at St. Bridget's for over 20 years as a class teacher and also as the SENCo for several years. We are grateful for all of the work that Mrs Coakley-Hines did for the children at St. Bridget's and we wish her well in her retirement.

We would also like to wish Mr Wilkins well as he has resigned his post as Caretaker to seek new opportunities. We thank him for all of his hard work and wish him well for the future.

Congratulations to Miss Roberts, one of our teaching assistants, who achieved a first and a third place in the recent British National Taekwondo Championships.

#### **Family Toolbox**

Today Wirral is launching the Family Toolbox! This is a brand-new website that's been designed for Wirral parents and carers.

**Familytoolbox.co.uk** is a free online hub to help Wirral families be the strongest they can be. It has information about everyday family life to share, to help boost your confidence and skills and develop that vital bounce-back ability, so that you can weather life's storms.

It has lots of things for family life in Wirral on one website:

- Find loads of tried and tested tips on parenting, looking after yourself and life as a family.
- Introduce yourself to people and places who can give you a bit of support.
- Find out what's on in Wirral for you and your family.
- Take space to reflect on what's going on at home and what you'd like to change.
- Save your family's favourite ideas, resources and places to your own Toolbox.

The site has been designed in partnership with families across Wirral, and we hope that you find it really useful.

For more information and to get involved, visit www.familytoolbox.co.uk



## PTA update

Thank you to the PTA who have organised a number of events for the children and families of St. Bridget's. The Easter hat competition was a huge success and well done to all of those who took part. This afternoon we are having our first disco for KS1 and KS2 children. Information is on our website <u>Disco info</u>. The PTA have also started to organise the Summer Social and information for this has been emailed out, but is on the website as well. <u>Summer Social</u>

#### Key dates (Please check)

Inset Days 2021-22

- Monday 28th February 2022
- Friday 27th May 2022
- Thursday 21st July Additional holiday (1 day) for Queens Diamond Jubilee

Thank you for your continued support,

Neil Le Fenne

Neil Le Feuvre

