

SIIMMERLEA C.P. SCHOOL





HEADTEACHER: MRS H MORRIS

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'Growing thoughtful learners and independent thinkers'



Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. I hope you and your children all had a happy and safe break from school. This week it has been science week in school and all of the children have been involved in a range of exciting activities and investigations planned by Mrs Hawkins and Mr Bailey our science subject leads. One child in each class has also been nominated as a science ambassador and should be wearing their new purple badges with pride!

Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Outbreak Management Plan

Our Covid-19 risk assessment and outbreak management plan have been reviewed and updated in response to high and rising cases in West Sussex. These are both published on our website and can be viewed by going to School Information > Covid 19 > Risk assessments & outbreak management plan.

The most significant change for parents is the additional measure of close and household contacts now being encouraged to take a lateral flow home test as well as a PCR test, so pupils will have received a negative home test before they come to school (assuming they do not have symptoms). Please refer to the attached letter from Paul Wagstaff (Director of Education & Skills at West Sussex County Council) as previously shared via ParentMail.

Thank you for your continued support in following government and local authority advice, as well as our own individual school's risk assessment and preventative measures, in order to help keep everyone in our school community as safe as possible.

You will have seen from the Inform and Advice letter that we have had some positive cases in school this week in year 4 and 5 and now also in year 1. I have been taking advice from the Local Authority and we are continuing to keep our risk assessment under review in order to ensure we have the appropriate mitigations in place to help prevent the spread.

Reporting absence

If your child is going to be absent from school (whether or not this is Covid related) please follow the correct absence reporting procedure which is to phone the office (if out of hours please leave a message on the absence line). Please do not report absence via Class Dojo. We have now also disabled the dedicated email address for reporting positive cases out of hours. Thank you.





















Remote Education

A reminder that if your child is self-isolating but is well that remote education is available for them to complete. Please let the office know if your child requires remote education and a pack can be sent home electronically or in hard copy. Work completed should either be uploaded to their portfolio on Class Dojo or returned to school once they are able to come back. If you have any questions about remote education, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. Our updated Remote Education plan for this term remains on our website under Learning Zone > Remote Education.

End of the school day

Our one-way system remains in place to help continue to safeguard our pupils. A reminder that at the end of the school day gates open at 3pm – this allows us to maximise learning time and for lessons to continue right up until the end of the day.

There is no need for everyone to arrive at 3pm on the dot, or a long time beforehand, as this leads to queues and congestion, not only on site but also outside of the school. Classroom doors open at 3pm and children are dismissed once staff see their adults arrive and will ensure your child/ren are safe until this time. The gates to Key Stage 2 are usually closed at 3.10pm and then after this time children can be collected from the office. Please do not 'queue jump' as this causes frustration and is unnecessary - there is plenty of time with a 10 minute window for collection (just as there is at the start of the day at drop off). You can also help by just one adult coming onto site to collect their child/ren and older siblings and other family members and friends waiting outside the gates but away from the entrance.

Please ensure you supervise your child/ren closely and do not allow them to run ahead. Linked to this, please also be respectful of our neighbours' front gardens.

Thank you for your support with this.

Curriculum guides and homework

Year group curriculum guides and homework for this half term will be being sent home today. These documents both provide important information, including key dates and events for the half term ahead. Hard copies are available from the front office and copies are also available to view and download from our website. Please go to Our School > Curriculum & Assessment > Curriculum Guides and Learning Zone > How to help > Homework. Thank you for your interest and support.

Parent surveys

During parent consultation meetings, in the week before half-term, we administered two parent surveys. The first was the Ofsted Parent View survey, which we ask parents to complete every year, and helps us understand what we do well as a school and where we could further improve. The second was a survey about extended schools provision and a breakfast club. Both surveys can be accessed via our website so if you did not complete them we would be very grateful if you would do so.

For the Ofsted Parent View survey please go to Our School > Ofsted & Parent View. This survey remains open all academic year and can be completed at any time.

For the extended schools survey please go to Our School > School Improvement > Surveys. This survey will remain open for two more weeks.

Yellow Photos

Individual photos with Yellow are scheduled to take place on **Friday 19th November**. There will be no PE on this day so please ensure your child/ren come to school in the correct full uniform. Yellow are unable to offer sibling photos again this year, in line with their Covid-19 risk assessment, and apologise for any disappointment this causes parents. They will be continuing to offer parents the 25% family discount.

Coats

Please ensure your child has a named coat in school with them every day.

Community safety

Finally, and very importantly, I am including another reminder in the newsletter about safety outside and around the school. We have again had a number of concerns and complaints raised by both parents and local residents about people parking and driving without care or thought for others and ultimately putting members of our school community in danger which is extremely worrying and unacceptable. As such, I must remind all adults who drive to school to drop off and pick up with consideration.

We realise that there are some parents/carers who have no alternative but to drive to school, however, many are driving short distances where walking is a real option. Even those who have to drive to school can play their part in keeping our community safe by parking away from the school entrance and walking for part of the journey.

If you do have to drive please DON'T:

Block the road - emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access
Park on yellow lines, zig-zags or block the school entrance
Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways
Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction
Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users
Leave your vehicle with the engine still running
Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off, even for a
few seconds.

In addition, as the Parking Enforcement Officer always says, a disability badge is not a reason to park dangerously. We have recently had cars parked opposite bollards restricting the road access and the ability for pedestrians to cross safely. If you have a blue badge and you are parking on yellow lines please ensure you are not causing danger to other road users, including pedestrians.

These changes make a real difference to the congestion around school, making the school run pick-up / drop-off less stressful and far safer for everyone. As well as the obvious health benefits to walking or cycling, you will be helping your child's education. Research has shown that children who walk or cycle to school are more receptive to learning at the start of the school day than those who travel to school by car.

Most importantly, we expect everyone to act in a calm and polite manner and that all adults are mindful of their language and behaviour when interacting with each other around school drop-off and pick-up times. This relates to concerns by parents and members of the public who have reported that they had been spoken to aggressively and rudely by parents/carers of our school using bad language. These incidences have also often been witnessed by young children and caused a great deal of upset. This is really sad and worrying to hear as all parents and carers are role models for our young people. Aggression and abusive behaviour will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Police if observed by or directed at a member of staff. If you witness, or you are a victim of such behavior, we urge you to do the same.

If you see anti-social driving we encourage you to note the details of the vehicle and report to Sussex Police at Operation Crackdown www.operationcrackdown.org

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

Helen Morris

Headteacher

Attachments

Paul Wagstaff Children, Young People and Learning Education and Skills

www.westsussex.gov.uk

County Hall Chichester West Sussex PO19 1RQ 01243 777100



14 October 2021

Dear parents, carers and pupils,

I hope you are enjoying the new term with less disruption than last year.

The reality is that, while you and your school continue to remain vigilant, Covid-19 is still in our communities and cases in West Sussex schools are very high and rising.

We need to keep working together to limit the spread of the virus. By doing so, our children can continue to go to school safely and the disruption to all our lives will be minimal.

Here are some simple things you can do to support your school:

Close contacts should take a PCR test

Close contacts of people who are Covid-19 positive no longer need to self-isolate, provided they are either double vaccinated or are under the age of 18. This includes household contacts and means that siblings and children of parents/carers with Covid can continue to go to school, provided they don't have symptoms.

Close contacts are strongly advised to get a PCR test but don't have to wait for the result by staying off from school. As an extra protective step, the Government is asking close contacts to also take a home test (LFD) before they attend school, waiting the short time for a negative result whilst they are awaiting the results of the PCR test. Should the LFD test result be positive, you must self-isolate until you receive your PCR results back.

This important step will greatly reduce the chances of your children bringing the virus into school. This includes primary children and we know that even young children soon become familiar with this quick testing.

Continue regular home testing

Students of secondary age and above are strongly encouraged to keep up twice weekly home testing. Research has found that <u>LFD testing is even more effective</u> than first thought at identifying people with the virus when they are most infectious, and results show up quickly. Regular weekly testing will help your school to greatly reduce the chance of outbreaks and allow a continuity of learning for your child.

LFD results must be reported back to school and to: https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

You can easily order home test kits by calling 119 or you can pick them up from lots of pharmacies, test sites and shops, search collection sites at: https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/findatestcenter

Test if you have symptoms

If you or any of your household have symptoms (a new continuous cough; loss or change of taste or smell; high temperature), you/they should go straight to booking a PCR test and isolate while waiting for the result. The whole household can also get a PCR test as close contacts, and as above, children are now asked to take a lateral flow test before attending school.

You should have a PCR test if you are symptomatic, have received a positive LFD, or are identified through NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a confirmed case.

Vaccinations

Covid-19 vaccinations are available for anyone aged 16 and over and for children aged 12-15. The Sussex Vaccination Programme is being run by the NHS and 16s and over can either book a test or simply visit a walk-in centre near them.

The national 12-15 programme is being delivered by trained NHS School Age Immunisation Service teams in schools and parents will be sent all of the details by their school.

You can find out about the Sussex Vaccination Programme, including for 12-15s, at: https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/keepsussexsafe/sussex-covid-19-vaccination-programme/ I would urge you to read the official scientific information about vaccinations which you can find through the above website.

Support your school with any measures they bring in

Individual schools can take decisions about reintroducing measures such as face masks, classroom bubbles and reducing large gatherings where the headteacher feels there is a benefit. Only in extreme circumstances, and after discussion with public health experts, would pupils who are well be asked to stay off school for a short time. You and your child could also be asked to take daily tests by your school in the event of an outbreak.

Please support your school community with any necessary action and remember **Hands. Face. Space** is still highly effective in our daily lives.

Official scientific advice shows that the risk of serious illness to young people from Covid-19 remains low. What we do know is how damaging it is for our children to miss out on being at school, both for their learning and socialising.

Thank you for doing your bit. If you have any questions, please raise them with your teachers and let's all work together to keep our children safely in school.

Yours Sincerely

Paul Wagstaff

Director of Education & Skills



How the library can support your child now they've started school

It's free to join the library and you can sign up for a library card in person or join online on our website: https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/join-the-library/. With a library card you can borrow up to twenty books for three weeks at a time, reserve children's books for free, and renew books you have on loan, as long as no one else is waiting for them. There are no overdue charges for children's books that are returned late to the library.

Stories to Share

Once your child starts school, they'll begin learning to read for themselves, but it's still important to continue sharing books and stories together at home. The best way to instil a love for and interest in reading is to simply read with your child. Your local library has a great selection of picture books you can share at home, from old favourites to the latest new releases. We also have dual language picture books for families with English as a second language and giant print and braille picture books for children or parents with visual impairment. You might also like to watch some of our online Storytimes that you can find on our website: https://arena.westsussex.gov.uk/web/arena/currentoffer/rhyme-time-and-story-time.

Rhymes and Rhyme Times

Did you know that children who know eight nursery rhymes by the time they're four years old, are usually among the best readers by the time they're eight? Nursery rhymes are a great way for children to develop the early phonic skills (the ability to hear, identify and manipulate letter sounds) that are essential for learning to read. To support your child's early literacy skills, why not sing rhymes from our Time to Rhyme booklet together or join in with our regular online Rhyme Times that you can find on our website or our West Sussex Libraries Family Corner Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WestSussexLibraries/.

Learning to Read

Every library has a collection of Beginner Reads to support children who are learning to read. The collection covers each of the early reading stages and our library staff can help you find books to match your child's reading level. The more opportunities your child has to practice reading, the more they'll grow in confidence and progress to become a fluent independent reader. Research studies have shown that spending just 10 minutes a day reading can make a huge difference to the development of a child's reading skills. We also have lots of help and advice for parents and carers with children learning to read on our website: https://arena.westsussex.gov.uk/web/arena/helpingchildrentoread.

Top Tips for Helping Your Child Learn to Read

Reading is one of the most important skills that children will ever learn. It is the key to success in all areas of their education. You can help your child learn to read in many ways:

- Read aloud to your child as often as possible and share a wide range of reading materials, for example stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poetry.
- Read with your child when you both want to read. You may find bedtime is the perfect time to read together. This can help create a routine and can make going to bed something your child looks forward to.
- Find somewhere quiet and comfortable, sitting side by side so that you will both be able to see the book.
- Before you begin reading, talk about the book; look at the front cover, title, and illustrations. Encourage your child to predict what the book will be about.
- Give your child plenty of time to browse and talk about the illustrations these are valuable for their understanding of the story and as a prop to help them read and remember the book.
- As you read aloud move your fingers under the words as you read to show the connection between what you are saying and the text on the page, and that sentences are read from left to right.
- Don't forget to have fun reading the book aloud. If you feel comfortable try putting on character voices or making animal noises and show emotion to help bring the story to life and make your child giggle.
- Don't worry if your child wants to read the same book over and over again. Familiar books are comforting and build confidence. Repetitive reading of the same story book also helps with their phonetic awareness.
- Be a reading role model! It doesn't matter what it is you could pick up a newspaper, a cookery book, or a novel. The more your children see you and other members of your family reading, the keener they'll be to read too.

Libraries for Learning

Our libraries offer early information and children's non-fiction books to help with homework and support learning at home. We also have free online information resources. Our online resources for children include the junior edition of Britannica Library, an online encyclopaedia resource with safe, fact-checked, age-appropriate content that's freely accessible from our website for library members: https://arena.westsussex.gov.uk/web/arena/currentoffer/childrens-learning.

Stories to Support New Experiences and Challenging Situations

To help young children deal positively with new experiences, such as starting school, worries and emotions, or more difficult situations such as divorce or bereavement we have put together situation specific booklists of recommended stories designed to comfort and reassure. These booklists can be found on our website: https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/more-library-services/library-services-for-childrenand-young-people/library-booklists-to-support-children/.

Get in Touch:

We have a team of librarians with specialist knowledge to help with enquiries about children's books and reading. If you have an enquiry contact your local library, who will refer your question to your local Families and Wellbeing Librarian, or you can complete our online enquiry form to get in touch: https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/ask-a-librarian/.





26th November - 2nd January Pavilion Theatre

wtam.uk 01903 206206





Performance Times

November

December

Wednesday 1st

Thursday 2nd

Saturday 4th

Sunday 5th

Tuesday 7th

Wednesday 8th

Thursday 9th

Saturday 11th

Sunday 12th

Tuesday 14th

Wednesday 15th

Friday 10th

Friiday 3rd

riday 26th	6:30pm
Saturday 27th	2:00pm
	6:30pm
Sunday 28th	2:00pm
	6:30pm

Tuesay 30th 10:15am 2:00pm

10:15am

2:00pm

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Thursday 16th

Friday 17th

Saturday 18th

Sunday 19th

Tueday 21st

Wednesday 22nd

Thursday 23rd

Friday 24th

Sunday 26th

Monday 27th

Tuesday 28th

Thursday 30th

Friday 31st

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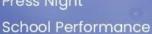
January

Sunday 2nd

2:00pm 6:30pm 12:00pm 4:00pm



Press Night





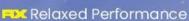
Captioned Performance



🐈 Dementia Friendly



\lambda Signed Performance





DON'T FORGET! SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL PUPILS IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 OR YEAR 2.

Alternatively, you can order now until the 5th December at www.mealselector.co.uk or contact 73041@compass-group.co.uk for help and information.



You don't need to go hungry if you don't have money for food.

There are many reasons for financial crisis, including redundancy, illness or injury, low income, unexpected expenses, a relationship breaking down, homelessness and more.

Whatever the reason, you can contact Citizens Advice <u>free</u> on **0808 278 7969** to talk about getting a foodbank voucher.

If you live or work in the areas around **Littlehampton**, **Angmering**, **Rustington**, **East Preston** and **Arundel** you can find more information on how to get a voucher, including other agencies you could contact, at https://littlehamptondistrict.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help.

Nobody needs to go to bed hungry tonight.

GRLFOOTBALLERS WANTED Under 11's Years 5 and 6



Starting from Saturday 6th November East Preston Youth FC are delighted to announce that they will begin training for an Under 11's girls football team. Our aim is to provide a fun and safe environment for local girls to enjoy their football and become part of our great community club.

Training sessions are every Saturday at East Preston Football Club from 9:30am - 10:30am. If you know of any girls who may be interested in joining our new team then please get in touch using the contact details below. All our coaches are DBS checked and FA Safeguarding qualified.

Call **0791 711 7027** or email **Ross.eastprestonfc@gmail.com** for more details.



East Preston Football Club Youth Section



ARUNDEL MUSEUM PRESENTS

This half term Heraldry Workshop



£7 per child, decorate your own wooden heraldic shield

Parent/ guardians to accompany please This workshop is ideally suited for ages 6-12 year olds



10.15 - 11.45

12.15 - 1.45

2.15 - 3.45

book on our website arundelmuseum.org





Town Clerk - Peter Herbert

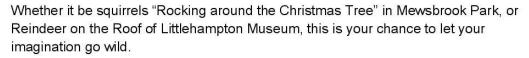
The Mayor of Littlehampton Councillor Michelle Molloy invites the young people who live in Littlehampton aged 4–11 years to design the Council's Civic 2021 Christmas Card.

Prizes

1st Prize £50 'the Works' vouchers

2nd Prize £25 'the Works' vouchers

3rd Prize £15 'the Works' vouchers



RULES

- 1. Entries should feature the words "Merry Christmas".
- 2. Designs should be A4. Bold colours (not pastels/watercolours) are recommended.
- 3. Only one entry per person.
- 4. Entry must be an original design created by the Entrant named on the Entry Form.
- 5. Entrants must be aged 4–11 years and living in Littlehampton.
- 6. All entries must include an Entry Form which has been completed and signed by the Entrant's Parent or Guardian.
- 7. Winners must be available on Thursday 25th November at 4pm to collect their prize and meet the Mayor for a photograph and presentation. Each winner will be given a time slot and will have to follow COVID-secure measures including the wearing of face coverings for parents/carers.



Please complete the form below and return it with your entry by 4.30pm on Monday 15th November 2021 to the address above.

Entry Form

Entrant's Name:			
Postcode:			
Entrant's Age:			
Describe your design	in less t	han 50 words:	
Name of Parent/Guar	dian:		
Phone Number:			
Email:			
Relationship to Entrar	nt:		
Date:			
Parent/Guardian: I agree to my child's full name being printed on the Mayor of Littlehampton's 2021 Christmas card and distributed to the Mayor's chosen recipients. Please tick the box.			
The information you provide (personal information such as name, address, email address, phone number) will be processed and stored so that it is possible to correspond with you. Your personal information will not be shared or provided to any other third party.			
Littlehampton Town Council will keep your information securely throughout the competition process. Once the competition has ended and the winners have received their prize the information will be destroyed.			
Please refer to our Privacy Policy which can be found on our website www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk . I agree by signing below that I have read and understand Littlehampton Town Council's Privacy Policy and I agree that the Council may process and store my personal information			
Signed.		Date:	