



G A Y T O N P R I M A R Y S C H O O L  
G A Y T O N R O A D • H E S W A L L • W I R R A L • C H 6 0 8 P Z

## Newsletter 7- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

We would like to wish all our families a Happy New Year and hope that you had a relaxing and safe Christmas. It has been lovely to welcome all our children back to school for the spring term. Due to the exceptionally high transmission levels of covid-19, it is necessary for us to approach the new school term carefully and cautiously to ensure the safety of our whole school community. We continue to do everything that we can to reduce transmission within school and have a wide variety of mitigations that continue to be in place to ensure that we continue with face to face learning for our children.



However, all schools are required to have a contingency plan to ensure that school has plans to deal with high numbers of staff shortages. Please bear with us this term as we may experience a high volume of staff having to isolate and it is likely that there will be times when your child may be taught by a different teacher; usual support staff may not be in school and we may have to amend the timetable unexpectedly. At the moment, we are having to manage the situation on a daily basis and it is likely that this will continue throughout at least the first half term of the spring term.

We will do everything we can to remain open to all pupils to ensure that pupils receive face to face education. However, our contingency plan does outline that if we do not have enough staff to open the school safely, we may have to move to remote learning. Any decision to do this, would have to be approved by the Local authority and we would do everything we can to try and ensure that we are not in this position and that it would be a last resort. Obviously, this would be communicated with parents at our earliest opportunity and we really hope that we will never be in this situation. School staff are completely committed to wanting to remain open and to teach face to face as we know that this is what we do best!

### Y6 Robinwood Residential Trip

Our Year 6 pupils will be visiting the Robinwood Centre from 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. At the moment, the DfE are still saying that residential visits can go ahead so we remain hopeful that this will be the case.



The final payment for the trip must be made by **31<sup>st</sup> January 2022**. If you have any concerns about meeting the deadline for payment, please contact the school office. We will be holding a meeting regarding the residential trip for Y6 parents. This will take place on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7:00pm**. This meeting will take place virtually via Google Meet and we will send the link out to parents in the week before the meeting.

Headteacher: Mrs McAleny

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## Christmas Performance – F2, Y1 & Y2.

In the last week of term we hosted our nativity performance of 'Born in a Barn'. This was such a special event and it was wonderful to be able to welcome parents into school in order to watch the performance.

Many thanks to everyone for your generosity with the donations we received at the end of the nativity performances. We actually raised £364.50 which more than covered the cost of the performance licence so we were able to donate half of this money to St Peter's Church and Heswall Methodist Church to say thank you to them for everything they do for our school throughout the year. With the remaining money, we are going to use this to purchase a few living willow kits so we can enhance our outdoor space on the field as part of our OPAL developments.

## KS2 Christmas Carols-

Our KS2 outdoor Christmas carol event was a huge success and it was such a lovely way of bringing everyone together. On this evening, we collected donations for charity and managed to raise £229.00. This has been split between Wirral University Hospitals and Ruby Flanagan- the Arrowe Park nurse who was sadly injured in the summer holidays.



## Neo- Community Appeal



Many thanks to our families who supported the Neo Community Appeal by buying a Christmas gift for a child on the Wirral. We know that this will have made a huge difference to many children and are very thankful to all the families who supported this appeal.

## Parents' Evening:

Parents' Evening will take place on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February from 3:40pm- 7:00pm.** At the moment, we are unable to confirm the arrangements for these evenings. Obviously, we would like to go ahead with face to face meetings, but if the virus transmission levels continue to remain high, we may move to an online parents' evenings.

## Curriculum information:

We will be sending home information regarding the curriculum in each year group this week. This will support you in understanding what is being covered within school throughout the spring term.

## Clubs:



All our clubs will commence next week (week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022.) Please remember that the deadline for signing up for clubs is today. If there are insufficient numbers for some of the clubs, the club provider may have to make the difficult decision to cancel the club so please ensure you have signed your child/ren up to these clubs before the end of today. We will confirm on Wednesday which clubs will definitely be going ahead. We are aware that a few clubs are over-subscribed so once we have the details from the club providers, we will be able to confirm if your child has a place on the club.

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### Welly Storage:

Huge thanks to the PTA for funding individual welly storage units for each class. We are delighted to be able to start using these. Please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies in school or alternatively an old pair of trainers. They will be playing across the whole school site so will require wellies/old trainers when accessing the school field.



### OPAL Donations:

We are looking for the following items to enhance our outdoor play opportunities at Gayton. If you do have any of these items, please drop them off at the school office.

- Adult clothing e.g. hats, jackets, coats, shirts, ties or any dressing up clothing
- Any small world items: E.g. dolls, dinosaurs, cars etc.
- Prams, pushchairs or suitcases
- Any scooters that are no longer required
- Any plastic spades or buckets (anything that you would use in a sandpit)
- Any off cuts of astro-turf that may not be required



### OPAL Play sessions with parents

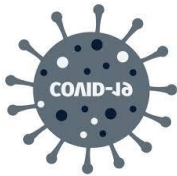
We had set dates (at the start of February) in order to invite parents into school for play sessions so that you could see some of our OPAL developments. However, due to covid, we have now decided to move these sessions until the end of the spring term. We will shortly publish these dates with parents so that you will hopefully be able to come along and join us and find out more about our OPAL play programme.

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## Covid- 19 updates:



From today, if your child tests positive on a lateral flow test then their isolation period starts from this day. The day is counted as day 0 and you should log the results via the NHS website and Test and Trace should make contact with you. **Please note that it will no longer be necessary for your child to go for a confirmatory PCR test.**

PCR tests will only be necessary for children/adults who have symptoms. If your child has symptoms, it is vital that you don't rely on lateral flow tests and that you book a PCR test for your child. Please do not send your child to school if they have symptoms, they must isolate and await the results of their PCR Test.

### Ending the isolation period earlier:

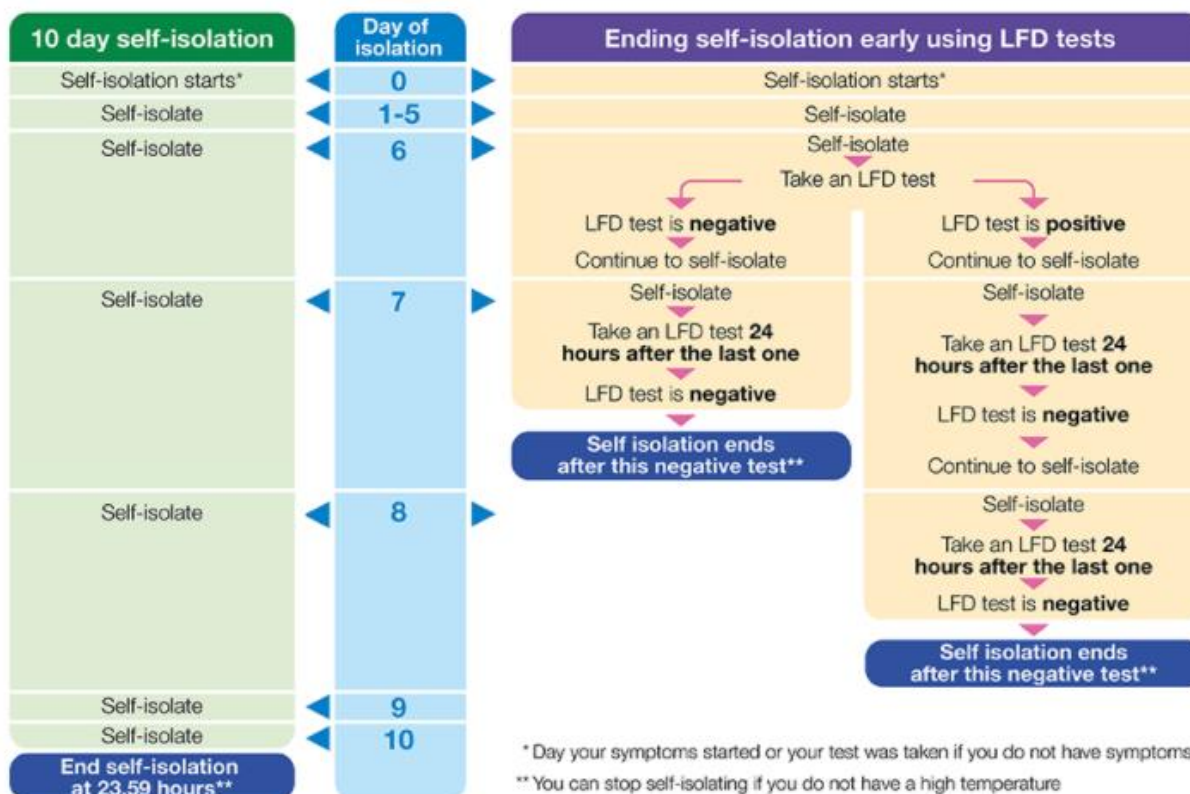
Individuals may take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self- isolation period. Those who receive two negative tests results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self- isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart.

If your child has a high temperature, they cannot end their isolation period earlier even with two negative LFD results. The DfE have now confirmed that children can return to their education setting on day 7 as long as you can complete the test before they come to school on day 7.

### Daily testing for close contacts:

People who are fully vaccinated, or children identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time

## Examples of when to end self-isolation if you have had COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive COVID-19 test result



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## Applications for F2 places for 2022- 2023

Online applications are open for any parents with children who are due to start in September 2022. Parents have until midnight on the 15th January 2022 to make their application. Please ensure that if you have an older child, you tick the sibling box on the application form.



Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. McAleny'.

Mrs McAleny

### Key Dates:

Date	Event
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Flu vaccine catch up. Parents will need to have completed e-consent for this.
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Deadline for F2 primary admissions.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Census Day- All F2, Y1 and Y2 pupils to have a hot dinner on this day. Menu to follow shortly.
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	Final payment for Robinwood Residential trip to be made.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Y6 Robinwood residential meeting for parents at 7:00pm. (via Google meet- link to be sent out to parents prior to the meeting.)
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Parents' Evening 3:40pm- 7:00pm- Arrangements for this evening to be confirmed closer to the time.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Parents' Evening- 3:40pm- 7:00pm – Arrangements for this evening to be confirmed closer to the time.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Break up today for half term holiday.
21 <sup>st</sup> February 2022- 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Half term holiday- school not open
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Children return to school following half term break.
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022	Cross Country at Arrowse Park (Y4-Y6) Further details to be sent home.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	Y4 trip to Chester- Romans.

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