



# Newsletter

Term: Spring 2022

Issue No: 11

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> February

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I am sure that you would have seen the announcement this week regarding the changes to the self-isolation guidelines. It is wonderful that after two long years, we are edging towards life without Covid restrictions, although as a community we must be mindful that this elicits different responses in those around us.

The DfE wrote to schools sharing information which I am sharing with you. The bold text comes directly from the DfE email.

### Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

**From Thursday 24 February, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. In addition, the Government will:**

**No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.**

**Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.**

You will see that the advice is for people who have Covid to remain at home for at least 5 full days and then follow the guidance until they have received two negative lateral flows.

Although these are now guidelines rather than legal requirements, we hope that parents will choose to adhere to these guidelines. This will help to ensure that our staff remain Covid-free and therefore able to continue to provide high quality education to your children. Your support will hopefully allow us to avoid a situation where, as before the half term break, we were struggling to staff all our classes.

Thank you for your continuing support.

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - WORLD BOOK DAY

'The Lost Words - A spell book.' The book began as a response to the removal of everyday nature words - among them "acorn", "bluebell", "kingfisher" and "wren" - from a widely used children's dictionary, because those words were not being used enough by children to merit inclusion. As a school, each class is claiming a word and spinning tales around the theme.

There is no expectation to dress-up, but if your child would like to, then they are truly welcome. In addition many activities and special reading times will be happening in class. World Book Day is a celebration of the magic of reading and we hope that your child will embrace this every day. Enjoy reading, sharing and storytelling. A £1 book token will be sent home on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March

We are supporting Comic Relief by holding a Superhero Day! Children are invited to dress up for a suggested donation of £1 or more via our online payment system. Maybe their superhero is Batman or Spiderman, or maybe someone closer to home such as an NHS hero or maybe even an author or sportsperson.

# TWOS-DAY!



## News from FONDS...

Firstly, I wanted to thank everyone for all your support over the past couple of years with our fundraising efforts. It has been extremely challenging with Covid having to do most things virtually, and your continued support meant we have managed to raise lots of money for our wonderful school as well as make donations to the NHS and St Catherine's Hospice.

I am delighted to say that now restrictions have eased we are planning to host an "Easter Bingo Event" on Friday 25th March - **MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

### We REALLY need you.....

Our wonderful Vice Chair, Cassie Denning is stepping down at the end of the year as her children will be moving on to secondary school. For FONDS to run successfully and us to be able to run *physical* events, we really need your support.

The plan is to create teams of "Event Planners/Organisers" to manage and run certain events throughout the year - meaning that it is not a huge commitment for anyone to take on. We understand that everyone has busy lives so this way you can hopefully help us when needed, contribute to raising money to your children's education and have fun in the process! Please send us an email to: [fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk) for more information.

As always thanks for your continued support.

## TEAM FONDS

Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

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