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## Happy Diwali

Happy Diwali to any of our families celebrating this week. Diwali is a very important religious celebration that takes place every year. Although it is traditionally celebrated by Hindus and Sikhs, it can be celebrated by people from other religions as well. The festival of Diwali welcomes the New Year and honours the goddess Lakshmi. The festival of Diwali means 'festival of light' and it celebrates the victory of light over darkness. During Diwali, the traditional Hindu story of Rama and Sita is told. Rangoli patterns are colourful and bright designs made on the floor by the entrance of a house to welcome visitors. During the Hindu festival of Diwali, people create these eye-catching patterns to encourage the goddess Lakshmi to enter their homes and to keep away evil spirits. Could you find out more about the story of Rama and Sita?

Mrs Easdon



## Bonfire Night

We hope you all have a lovely evening tonight. Children have been reminded in assembly and in class today about sparkler and fire-work safety. Remember to follow the firework code

- Only purchase fireworks from a reputable shop.
- Plan your fireworks display.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Read and follow the manufacturers' instructions carefully for each firework.
- Supervise properly.
- Light the firework at arm's length.
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- Stand well back from fireworks, away from the direction it's facing.
- Never use petrol or other dangerous liquids to light fires.
- Make sure that all flames and hot sources are extinguished at the end of the event.

## School Photographer

Our wonderful school photographer was able to get all sibling and individual photos done on Wednesday. As we had quite a lot of absence in school, he has kindly agreed to come back in a few weeks' time to take photos of anyone who missed out. He's checking his diary and we'll let you know as soon as we have a date confirmed. Thanks, Mrs Carrick

## Christmas Events

We are tentatively making plans with staff and the PTFA around Christmas celebrations. We are still awaiting further guidance from the local authority and PHE and are hoping to be able to confirm events, dates and times in next week's newsletter.

Thanks for your patience

Mrs Lamb



## Odd Socks Day

Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from **15 to 19 November 2021** and it has the theme One Kind Word. The week will begin with Odd Socks Day which is supported by CBBC and CBeebies star Andy Day and his band Andy and the Odd Socks. We invite all of our children to wear their funkiest odd socks to school on Monday 15th November in order to raise awareness for this important cause.

Children will also be taking part in a variety of creative, age-appropriate activities to help to spread the message, 'let kindness fuel kindness.'

I cannot wait to see you all in your best odd socks!

Mr Kindness (Hindess)



## Healthy School

We've had a couple of darker, wet mornings and evenings for our journeys to and from school so far this term and we are increasingly having to think about being prepared for the weather. The cycle charity Sustrans has some great advice for cycling safely in wet weather, snow, the dark and winter-proofing your ride. Just click on the 'Get Active' link at the top of the home page and scroll down to find these articles and more. <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/>  
Mrs Wells



## Make a Difference Competition

The Natural History Society of Northumbria has asked all young scientists '**If you could change one thing to make a difference for nature, what would it be?**'

If you have any great ideas on how to protect our climate, our wildlife or each other please email a video of yourself explaining your idea, a sketch or drawing of your idea or write a brief description of the one difference you think we should make to protect nature, to Miss Pope at the Gosforth Park Admin email. All ideas will be entered in the History Society's competition and could win a £20 book token!

Thank you

Miss Pope



Thank you so much to everyone who supported our lovely cake sale on the last day of term.

We made a staggering £275.56 – a fabulous start to our PTFA fundraising.



The next PTFA meeting is on Tuesday 16th Nov from 6:15-7:15pm in the school. All parents are welcome.

Many thanks

Laura Greenhill

On behalf of the PTFA

## Think COVID First

Please remember not to attend school if your child had COVID symptoms or feeling unwell for any reason. Whilst the key symptoms of COVID remain a new continuous cough, or a loss of sense of taste or smell or a high temperature, these symptoms do not always present in each case, so it remains important to take a 'Think COVID first' approach at all times. Please follow basic infection, prevention and control practice: Do not attend the school/workplace if unwell, particularly with respiratory symptoms, even if a negative PCR test result is returned. Many respiratory conditions are infectious.

## Mathletics

Violet class have been working so hard on Mathletics during half term and have gained almost double the number of points of the other classes! Amazing work all of you! Hania Pervez, Sahib Singh Dhaliwal and Bruce Reid are our Mathletes of the Week!



Hania Pervez and Sahib Singh Dhaliwal have also been practising their Times Tables too – your teachers will be so proud of you! Well done to Finn Walker and Lola Anderson for your hard work on Times Table Rock Stars too.



## Oxford Reading Buddy

Alanna Turnbull and Joshua Mays in Reception are our Oxford Reading Buddies this week. Well done - super understanding of the quizzes!

Mrs Lambert

## Attendance

Our class of the week this week with **100%** attendance is **Blue Class**.

Our whole school attendance has dropped to **96.2%**. We hope you're all feeling better soon after the dreadful cold and chicken pox that we've been suffering from in school.

# ASDA

Huge thanks to Michelle from Asda who arrived at school this morning with a donation of games for Rainbow Wraparound. I can't wait for a game of connect four!

Mrs Lamb





## **Rainbow Wraparound Holiday Club**

October half term was our first holiday club and what an amazing week it was. The group of children that attended were an absolute dream to work with and engaged brilliantly with all experiences on offer.

Here are some examples of the activities we took part in:



We would like to thank you all for your continued support during our first half term. We have really appreciated all of your kind donations of toys and resources and the feedback so far from our families has all been very positive.

We are already starting to plan for our next holiday club in February half term. Keep a look out in the schools weekly newsletter in the New Year for details!

Many Thanks Rainbow Wraparound Team



# Updated COVID Guidance

## When to self-isolate

Self-isolate straight away and get a [PCR test \(a test that is sent to the lab\) on GOV.UK](#) as soon as possible if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You should also self-isolate straight away if:

- you've tested positive for COVID-19 – this means you have the virus
- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive (unless you are not required to self-isolate – check below if this applies to you)
- you've been told to self-isolate following contact with someone who tested positive – [find out what to do if you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app](#)

Information:

You may need to quarantine when you arrive in England from abroad. [Check the quarantine rules when entering England on GOV.UK](#)

## When you do not need to self-isolate

If someone you live with has symptoms of COVID-19, or has tested positive for COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years, 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a [PCR test on GOV.UK](#) to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

## Tell people you've been in close contact with that you have symptoms

Tell people you've been in close contact with in the past 48 hours that you might have COVID-19.

You should tell them to follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#).

They do not need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service.

If they get any symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and get a test as soon as possible.

## How to self-isolate

You must not leave your home if you're self-isolating.

- do not go to work, school or public places – work from home if you can
- do not go on public transport or use taxis
- do not go out to get food and medicine – order it online or by phone, or ask someone to bring it to your home
- do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family – except for people providing essential care
- do not go out to exercise – exercise at home or in your garden, if you have one
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## How long to self-isolate

If you test positive, your self-isolation period includes the day your symptoms started (or the day you had the test, if you did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.

You may need to self-isolate for longer if you get symptoms while self-isolating or your symptoms do not go away.