

# FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Telephone Number: 0121-675-4040

[www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk](http://www.fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk)

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Next Week—Menu 4

## 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Governors

### COVID-19

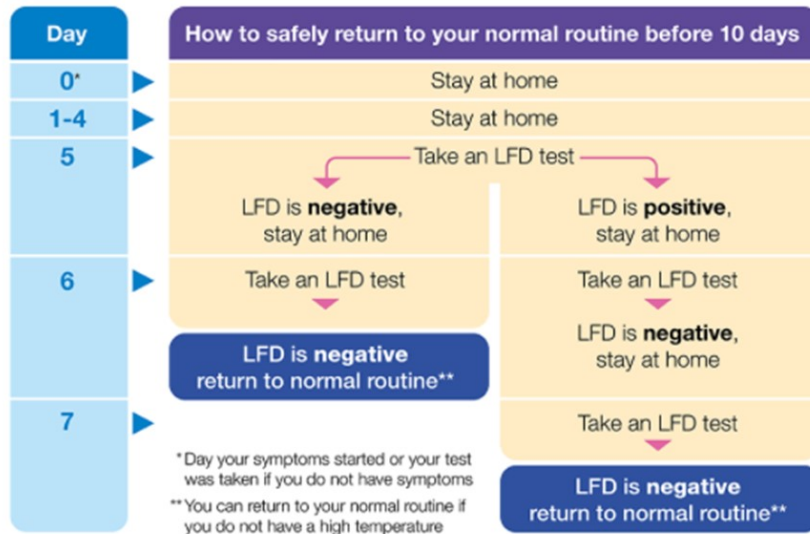
As we hit the mid-way point of the school year, and look forward to the Spring and Summer with lots of events to look forward to, it's a natural point at which to reflect on the first half of the year and the challenges we have faced.

Between September and the end of January we have faced some of the most testing times of the pandemic in school, with the number of positive cases hitting their highest levels either side of Christmas. Throughout these times we have continued to work our very hardest to look after all of our pupils and staff, by maintaining all our efforts to keep infections at bay. I know that for parents, whose access to school has been curtailed in recent terms, these efforts have all gone on in the background but the school Governors have asked me to bring them to parents' attention so that you can see what a team effort it has been.

- Extra regular cleaning of all communal areas.
- Extra regular cleaning of all classrooms.
- Extra regular cleaning of all touched surfaces.
- All classrooms on a rota to be cleansed by a new 'fogging' machine (this creates a fog within the room which is full of ionized particles which fall on all surfaces picking up microbes and falling to the floor. The room is then vacuumed.)
- Year groups operated in bubbles as and when necessary.
- One-way systems operated as and when necessary.
- Hand cleansing gel in all classrooms.
- Hand cleansing gel in both office/reception areas.
- Masks on offer to all staff throughout school.
- Windows and doors left open in classrooms when teaching happens to create effective through ventilation.
- All visitors to school asked to wear face protection.
- Mass events postponed or cancelled.
- Carbon-dioxide monitors set up in all classrooms.
- Carbon Dioxide levels measured and noted on a daily basis.
- Criteria for application of DfE clean air units explored - consistently low carbon dioxide levels prevented application.
- Staff Covid testing on a regular basis.
- Any staff or pupil testing positive have self-isolated meeting strict criteria.
- Any supply staff brought into school to cover school staff who have been isolating have been asked to test for Covid.

As of 24<sup>th</sup> February, the Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate if you have symptoms of Covid-19, but their advice is to still do so. Although we cannot enforce this self-isolation we would expect all parents to do the right thing and keep their children away from school for at least 5 days if they have COVID-19 and then take a Lateral Flow Test from day 6 onwards, as shown overleaf:

## How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days



## Staffing News



We have some sad news to relay to parents and that is that at the end of the academic year Mrs. Boughton will be moving on. She has been offered a position at The Shrubbery School and will begin in September. We are announcing this news now as we have to begin our search for a new member of the Four Oaks staffing team right now. I hope all Year 6 parents understand that this news in no way changes or alters Mrs. Boughton's commitment to her class as she will continue to make sure her children get the most out of their Year 6 experience and really enjoy their last year at Four Oaks before they fly the nest. I am sure all parents will join me in wishing Mrs. Boughton the very best in her new school.

On an exciting note we also have three new members of staff who have joined our team.

Mrs. Birch is a new Teaching Assistant who had joined our Reception Team, Mrs. Spiers is a new Teaching Assistant who had joined our Year 6 team, and Mrs. Hackett is a new addition to our cleaning team. We look forward to working successfully with all of them!



## World Book Day



We hope your children really enjoyed World Book Day and have a renewed thirst for a love of reading. We read to our classes daily as it is proven to make the most impact in developing life-long learners. Please ensure to continue to support us by reading at home to your children too. Many thanks.



## Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust—School Clothing Grant

Every year Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust run a scheme whereby any parents who reside within the Sutton Coldfield boundaries can apply for a grant of up to £100 per child to help purchase school uniform. This is dependant upon whether the parents are in receipt of Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit. If you think you might be eligible for this scheme then please contact Mrs Johnson in our Junior department and she will be able to provide you with a form to fill in. Parents are requested to return completed forms and bring in **copies of their proof of benefit** by **Monday 14 March 2022**. As you can see this is a tight deadline so please do not delay.



## Year 2 Trip—Thursday 10th March

In connection with their topic of the Great Fire of London Year 2 are visiting Aston Hall on Thursday 10th March. We hope they have a lovely time.





### Super Stars and Acorns



The following children received Stars (Infants) and Acorns (Juniors) in Assembly last week of half-term Well done to them all!!

Bumblebees	Alfie C.
Ladybirds	Oatie
Owls	Oliver
Hedgehogs	Aaminah
Turtles	Poppy
Sharks	Hajra
3B	Ava
3E	Daisy
4B	Mia
4R	Jack
5C	Myles
5ST	Alayna
6B	The Whole Class
6E	The Whole Class

### Courtesy Cup Winners ~ last week of half-term

Reception	Adam / Daisy
Year 1	Aisha / Alexa / Amiyah
Year 2	Isla / Heidi
Year 3	Valentino / Jacob L.
Year 4	Beau / Noah
Year 5	Jessie / Max C.
Year 6	Noah / Dylan



Well done to all the winners!

Due to having a wonderful assembly where the children performed their World Book Day songs or poems celebration assembly was postponed this week. Normal service will be resumed next week!

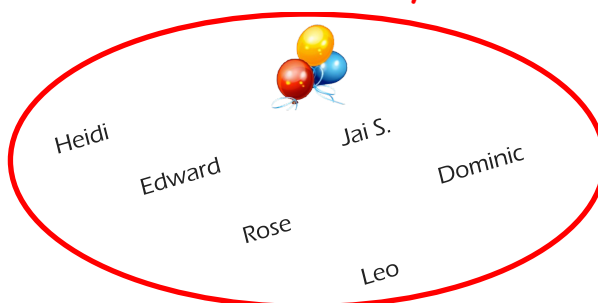


### Kindness Tree Award

Last week of half-term Infants: Freddie (Turtles)  
Last week of half-term Juniors: Libby (4R)



### Infant Birthdays



Alison Mander—Kindness Award  
Last Half Term it was awarded to:  
Infants— Ria C. (Hedgehogs)  
Juniors— Rosie (5ST)



### CBeebies—Year 1

Year 1 were very excited to have a visit from the CBeebies staff this week who were looking for some future stars for a new programme. We should hear within a couple of weeks as to whether any of our children have been chosen.

### Corporate Partners

In these tough times we are always looking for companies and organizations outside of school to support us in finding resources. We have recently been on the lookout for some new building resources for our Reception children and the lovely people at Midland Dairies have come up trumps. They have supplied us with stackable milk crates for the children to use in construction activities totally free of charge. It is great that they have been able to support us like this and in return we said we would support them by shining a light on the service that they offer to our community. A flyer with a summary of their service can be found at the end of this newsletter or you could just click on this link to see what they could offer you!

[www.birminghamdairies.co.uk](http://www.birminghamdairies.co.uk)

### Musical Students!



Some of our students, who take part in YMES music lessons at school, have recently passed their copper or bronze music assessment awards for violin or keyboard. Congratulations to Year 4 students Amira, Isabel B., Aneka, Etta, Noah H., also Scarlett (Yr 5) and Hannah K. (Yr 6).



### YMES Keyboard Lessons

As year 2 will be on a trip next Thursday their lessons will be changed to Wednesday afternoon instead. Parents should also have been contacted by YMES directly.


### YMES Guitar Lessons

As parents will be aware unfortunately our guitar teacher has been unwell on a couple of occasions last half term. To make up for the missed sessions he will be coming into school on Monday 7th March and Monday 21st March.

Can you please make sure your child brings their guitar into school on these extra dates. They will still have their sessions on Wednesday in these weeks.



### Netballers

 Congratulations to our netball teams who won their tournaments, that they represented the school in, before half-term. Mrs. Goldspink had a huge smile on her face when they all returned to school so a huge well done to her and all the girls!

### Well-Being Club

Our after school Well-Being Club on a Friday will re-start on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March. This term the theme will be anger management and controlling your emotions. If you are interested in your child having a place at this club then just visit our school website and follow the link in the 'Latest News' section.

### Science Week

Here at Four Oaks we love Science! From the 11-20<sup>th</sup> March it's British Science Week and to help us celebrate this we are asking for your, 'Science Selfies!' We would love you to Tweet us a photo of you doing something scientific! Perhaps you have a passion for doing experiments at home, you might visit a zoo or museum, or have just noticed something you think is of scientific interest- from frogspawn to bouncing on a trampoline! Science is everywhere!



Tweet your photos to @fouroaksprimary and use #scienceselfie. You can send them in anytime from now until Science Week. You can send in as many as you like- go wild! But please don't include names, as we don't want to put children's faces with their names on social media. If you don't use Twitter, then photos can be emailed to: [science@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk](mailto:science@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk). We will share some of our selfies in assemblies during Science Week to celebrate the amazing science our children experience outside of school. Thank you and have a fantastic time!

Mrs Morris

### Mother and Toddler Club

After a break of nearly two years we are pleased to announce that the Mother and Toddler club has restarted. It will take place every Friday in the playgroup building between 1:15 and 3:00pm. The cost is £3.00 per family.



.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....PTA NEWS.....

### Comedy Night

A huge thank you to all parents who came and supported our PTA Comedy Night on the last Friday of last half-term. It was a huge success and made a profit of £1,270. Well done to the PTA Committee for yet again putting hours of preparation into an event which will benefit every single child in school!

### Play Equipment

Both of our department managers, Miss Wykes and Mrs. Bambury have used some of our PTA funds to replenish all of the children's playground equipment. A huge thank you to all of you for supporting our events or donating monthly to our 'PTA School Fund'. Every little contribution helps to ensure our children are happy and thriving at school.

### 200 Club - February Draw

**First prize £50 - No. 1 - E. Higgs**

**Runner up prize 1 £10 - No. 6 - M. Arnett**

**Runner up prize 2 £10—No. 35 - T. Stevens**

**Free Blow Dry Voucher with Soniabetts Styling Hub—No.75 - J. Samuel**

**£30 Voucher for Renato Lounge in Mere Green—No. 145—Mrs Litwinowicz**

The prize draw was carried out on Tuesday 15th February by children from the turtle class and overseen by Mr Benton.

**Not a member, but fancy joining in the fun?**

Sign up by 10th March to be entered into the remaining 5 monthly raffles for only £5 (or double your chance of winning by buying 2 for £10!!) <http://www.pta-events.co.uk/four-oaks-primary>

Many thanks, as ever, to everyone who has donated prizes this year, and to everyone who takes part!



### ICT Tip of the Week


*The government has launched a new campaign aimed at providing support and advice to parents and carers in the West Midlands.*

*ParentWise, which will run for 6 weeks, aims to build parents' and carers' awareness of some of the things their children could face growing up. It has been designed to help them spot the signs that something could be wrong and empower and reassure them to act if they are worried. <https://parentwise.campaign.gov.uk/>*

If you have any queries regarding any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me.  
Yours sincerely


Mr M Benton  
Head Teacher





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