

# Newsletter

17<sup>th</sup> September 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very busy week this week as we begin to find a rhythm to our new routines. As always, the children have risen to the occasion and have settled in well.

Thankfully, all issues with Google Classroom seem to have been resolved and we will begin using this to both set and collect home learning. This also means one less thing to remember to bring to school. As always, and even more so this year, we ease our children back into school and gradually increase expectations regarding home learning. From next week, Year 1 up will use this platform.

**KS2 and Accelerated Reader** Many of our KS2 children enjoyed quizzing on the books they read at home during lockdown. We quiz regularly in class but would like to extend this opportunity to the home too. Children can access the accelerated reader site by logging in using their emoji passwords, alternatively the site can be accessed on the address below:

<https://ukhosted103.renlearn.co.uk/6697765/>

Your child can search for a quiz using the number on the front inside cover of the book or can type the book title directly into the search bar. Please note that children will not be able to access the reading 'test' element of accelerated reader at home - we will test half termly at school to ensure children have an accurate ZPD level and to measure progress in reading. Of course they can then record what they have read and their quiz score in their Reading Journals to share this with us at school. Before a quiz, the child can flick through the book again to remind themselves of the content before setting it aside and completing their quiz independently.

Mrs Buttery, our Forest School Lead has started to utilise our new Mini Woodies Learning Zone (which was created over the summer holidays) with our Reception children. From my office, I can hear the buzz of excitement and see them actively exploring this area! Equally, our Claygate Charter has begun. Our gratitude goes to the team who have cleared and tidied the Woodland Learning Zone pond and built a pontoon for the children to safely access this area (under supervision of course!). Thank you in particular to Mr Copeland Cale.





Due to lockdown, our Claygate Charter did not run for the full year. In preparation for this year, our Enrichment Team have worked with each other and year group teams to ensure progression of skills and the inclusion of meaningful links to the curriculum where possible. As our new music teacher is also an experienced drama teacher, the children will have the full session to engage with 'Music and Drama'; very exciting indeed. Last year, this session included a Japanese block too which I know the children both loved and benefitted from. Mrs Ali will continue to give each class a block of Japanese, but these sessions will be timetabled separately so as not to detract from the Music and Drama enrichment session. As our bulge class has left CPS, our charter does not need an additional Multi Sports session. Moving forward, all Claygate Charter sessions will be run by the CPS Enrichment Team and will still include: Amazing Artists, Greenfingers, Outdoor Puzzlers, M-Fit (Mental Fitness), Fitness and Fun (A range of physical fitness and sporting activities), Music & Drama, Woodland Explorers and Outdoor Problem Solving (KS2 only) plus Japanese as a separate block. At CPS, the children's well-being and a broad and balanced curriculum will always be valued.

Social media: I have had two issues raised regarding social media. The first is a polite request from parents that parent WhatsApp Groups maintain a level of appropriateness. Please can parents reflect on what they post and the frequency of posts. As I am not privy to any particular issue or the actual frequency of messages, I can only suggest that you use your common sense!

Please do not contact any member of staff regarding school issues or requests via social media. Please use the appropriate channels.

Y3 Staffing Update: As many of you know Mrs Tamimi is due to have her baby next year and planned to take maternity leave from the beginning of next term. The governors and I are acutely aware that Year 3 have not been in school for some time so we made a last minute change in the summer. Mrs Nelson increased her hours to be the full time teacher of Cedar Class. This enabled Mrs Duncan to job share with Mrs Tamimi until her maternity leave so the children would have a degree of consistency this year. Unfortunately, Mrs Tamimi has been seriously ill and has not yet returned to school. Again, we are very aware of the possible impact on Hazel class. Mrs Ali has stepped in to teach and Mrs Duncan increased her hours to 3 days to minimise disruption for the children as an interim solution. The governors and I, mindful of our budget, still felt that we needed a long term solution as even when Mrs Tamimi returns, she will still take maternity leave next term.

We feel we have acted swiftly and decisively, putting our children first. We are delighted that we have appointed Mr Hales to job share with Mrs Duncan. He will be in class Monday-Wednesday and Mrs Duncan will teach Thursdays and Fridays. Mr Hales will bring his experience of SEND and Inclusion to CPS as well as his passion for Sport and PE. He will lead PE alongside Mrs Gee and Mr Williams. Mr Hales will be full time and will provide cover for colleagues' professional development and sickness alongside bespoke tuition and interventions to targeted pupils when not class based.

After talking to parents we have decided to tweek arrangements so that children who have Sport or Enrichment during the school day may wear their trainers for the whole of the day.



Lime Class building was previously used for a classroom as we had a bulge year. This is no longer the case so we have a whole building 'spare'. We have been reflecting on this and have considered possible uses. One possibility is to utilise this space for our very own CPS nursery. This would allow our children to transition even more smoothly into Reception. CPS would benefit from having a full Early Years Key Stage (Nursery and Reception) which would positively impact on resources and opportunities for the children as well as staff development. We have discussed the possibility of opening a maintained nursery with the Local Authority as there are very few school based maintained nurseries in Surrey. We have also discussed this possible plan with Holy Trinity Church and Jigsaw as our closest nursery. Our next step is to seek parental views. I am of course aware that some of you have older children, so it does not directly impact on you. However, the opportunity for older children to support even younger peers potentially benefits them too. Please do let us have your thoughts by completing this survey:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=gBq57\\_enCkGeWoLa71WExRkRUndKUf1MjOvPtHqGRm5UQzdSRTNJmzNWS1Y1RUxHT1QwSIFITtK0WS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=gBq57_enCkGeWoLa71WExRkRUndKUf1MjOvPtHqGRm5UQzdSRTNJmzNWS1Y1RUxHT1QwSIFITtK0WS4u)

**Covid Update:** We are aware that test availability is an issue. This week we sent a guide regarding symptoms of Covid and what to do if your child is ill or if they are showing symptoms. This has also been put on our website for your reference. It is very difficult for us as non-medical professionals to guide you beyond this. We are all learning how Covid and school attendance works and I am sure together we will aim to keep CPS as safe as possible. At this point we are not aware of any of our children having coronavirus, however one parent has, so we continue to recommend adults wear masks at start / end of the day.

Here is the Government's most recent guidance

## Coronavirus in children

Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious.

### Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### What to do if your child has symptoms

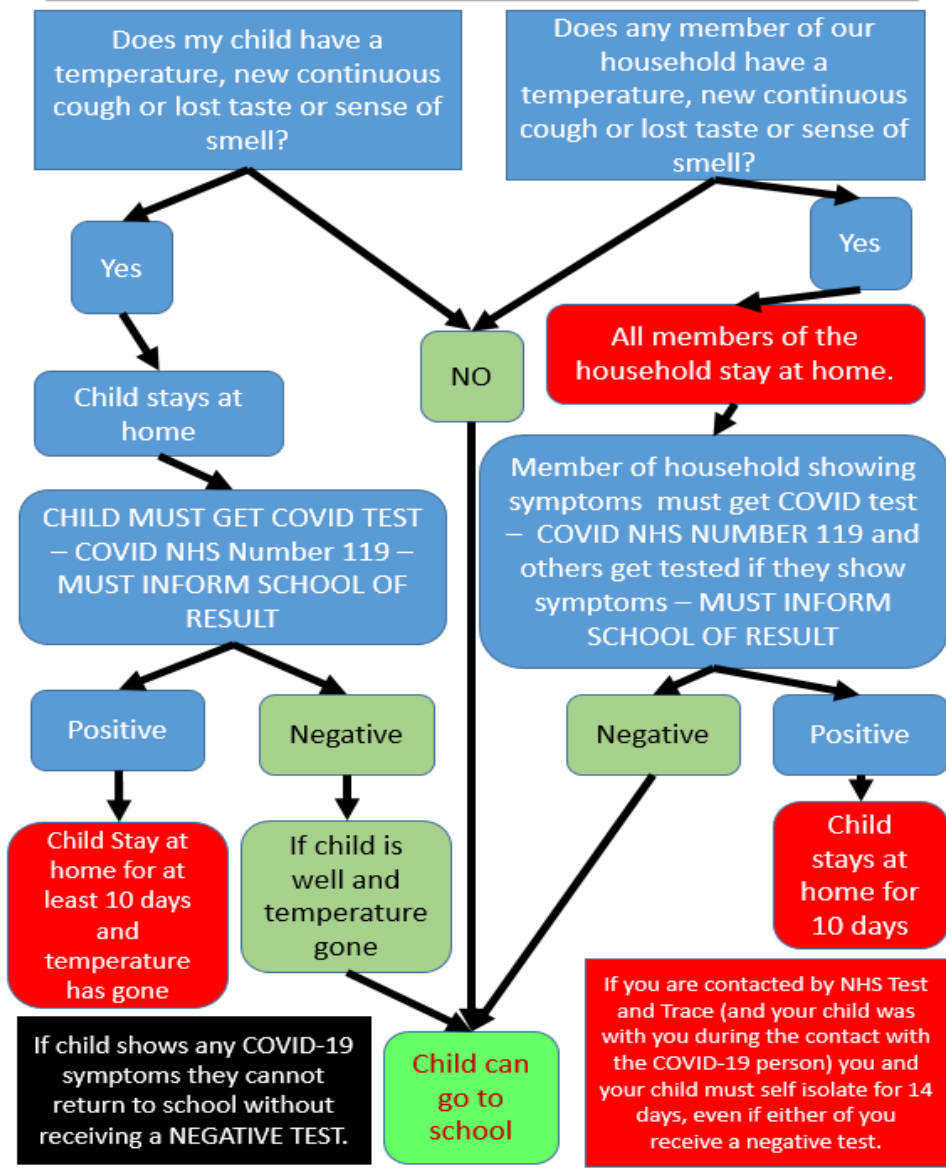
If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

For further information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/><sup>B</sup>

## COVID SYMPTOMS AT HOME FLOW CHART



If your child is ill, as always, there is no expectation that they complete any school work at home (if they are too ill for school, they are too ill to work at home too). By resting, hopefully they will get better and back to school quickly.

If however, they are showing Covid symptoms, or are quarantining / shielding, teachers are happy to share transferable tasks to complete at home via Google Classroom which is now thankfully back in action after they had issues transferring data to new year groups etc.

In these circumstances, we also would direct you to the government's website for home learning resources: Oaks Academy Online Classroom learning platform. <https://www.thenational.academy/>

On another note – as we enter the season of coughs & colds can you please ensure your child has a supply of their own tissues with them at school.

Thank you for your continued support; it really does mean a lot!