



Headteacher:
Mrs L.J. Lewis

Marshfield Primary School

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Dear Parents,

As you are aware, we currently have two classes self-isolating. I would like to thank the parents of these pupils who cooperated so swiftly when asked to collect their children. I am in close contact with the teachers and support staff guiding the pupils whilst they complete the home learning and they have explained how well the children have engaged with the tasks. If you are having any problems accessing the home learning, please could you contact the office or the teachers/ support staff leading the blended learning via seesaw. We would all like to express our best wishes to those pupils and their families and hope they remain well.

I have continued to receive enquiries regarding the final day of term. At present the Welsh Government is advising that schools remain open until 18th December. I understand that some parents will make their own individual decisions about school attendance based on their own family circumstances.

Symptomatic household members

Please could we remind parents, that if your **child or another household member** is symptomatic, the entire household should remain at home at the onset of symptoms and a test should be sought. If you are ever in any doubt of whether or not you should send your child to school, please contact the school in the first instance.

We would advise that if you are in any doubt, your child should remain at home until clarification is obtained.

Recognition of Symptoms

Under no circumstances should learners or staff attend schools/setting if they:

- feel unwell with any of the four identified COVID-19 symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or loss of taste or smell) or they have tested positive to COVID-19 in the past 7 days
- live in a household with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or has tested positive to COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

Please inform the school office in the first instance if your child is ill and has the above symptoms. If your child has had a test, a copy of the result of this test should be sent to the school email school@marshfieldprimary.co.uk.

As always, if you would rather ring the school for advice, we will be happy to help as far as we can.



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Further advice is available at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
Request a test via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Pandas Update

The full governing body met on 30th November to review Panda's reopening proposals. A decision was made that due to health and safety reasons that Pandas is unable to open in the current climate. The school will continue to work alongside Pandas in the coming months to update and enhance plans. It is anticipated that Pandas will remain closed until at least Easter.

PFA

A huge thanks you to our wonderful PFA who have spent two long mornings pitched up outside the school, enabling our children to safely take part in the annual PFA Christmas shops. Even in these very challenging times, the PFA are finding ways to continually support the school in a safe way. It was wonderful to hear that even our two classes that are isolating had the opportunity to purchase the PFA Christmas items remotely. Special thanks must go to the PFA chair, Mrs Jo Healan for all the time she has given and her impeccable organisation skills, as well as our own 'elf and safety' champion Mrs Dixon. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to other PFA member who gave their time to help out: Emma Davies, Triona Lambert, Christine Parks, Emma Davies, Jo McBride and Maria Goddard.

Christmas at Marshfield

We began our Christmas celebrations this week by lighting the tree. We had to adapt the proceedings but we still had a wonderful time. It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas here at Marshfield!

As stated in previous newsletters, our Christmas activities will be scaled back this year. We will still ensure that we celebrate this magical time of the year but that this is balanced against the continued focus on the children's learning and our Covid-19 risk assessments in order to keep everyone safe.

Please see attached Christmas brochure for details of these events.

Rather than children distributing personal Christmas cards from home this year, each class will design an e-card which will be shared with everyone. We understand that this will be disappointing for our children, but we continue to take decisions based on the health of our



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community. Any Christmas cards/calendars made in school will be quarantined before they are sent home.

We understand that families are really keen to show their appreciation and gratitude to the adults in school at Christmas time but this year we would ask parents to think carefully about what they are planning. Given that 2020 has been such a difficult year and many of our families have had a change in personal circumstances as a result of COVID-19, please know that a simple and heartfelt 'thank you' really is enough.

Thank you all once again for your continued support during this time.

Kind Regards,
Mrs L.J. Lewis and the Marshfield Team