

St Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Primary School In faith and love, we learn and grow



Newsletter 17 December 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I cannot tell you how pleased I was to be able to go ahead with the KS2 Advent Reflection at SJB this week. The children were incredible – you would never have guessed that they had not had a chance to rehearse on the stage with the microphones and lights. Every single one of them lived up to the occasion and performed brilliantly. I was struck by the SJB motto above the stage, "Have faith.....believe you can," and feel that it summed up the whole community approach to making the performance happen and giving the children their chance to shine. Thank you to all of you who cancelled arrangements and changed their plans at the last minute to make it possible.



Thank you for your donations at the end of the Nativity and Advent Reflection performances. Thanks to your generosity we were able to raise £180 for the Bee-lieve Foundation.

The Reindeer Run

The children had a wonderful time this week taking part in the reindeer run to raise money for the Woking and Sam Beare hospice. I am delighted to say we managed to raise just over £2,000, which is brilliant! Thank you all for your generosity. If any of you are still collecting sponsor money, please bring it to school in January and we will take it down to the hospice in the new year.





<u>Christmas lunch - 15th December</u>

Many thanks to Mrs Small and her team in the kitchen who made a beautiful Christmas lunch for everyone at school and thanks to the Friends who provided the crackers. A great time was had by all!





Magic show, parties and mufti – 15th December

The children had a fabulous time after the Christmas lunch watching a magic show by Jelly Kelly. The sound of screams and laughter filled the school



Closing date for Reception place applications for Sept 2022 – 15th January 2022

Surrey have asked us to remind parents of the deadline to apply for a Reception class place for September 2022. They have asked us to convey this message:

We strongly encourage online applications

via https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/eAdmissions/app. Parents can apply online from a smartphone or tablet as well as a laptop. If parents are unable to apply online, they will need to request a paper application form via the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm). The completed paper application form must be received by Admissions (to our Quadrant Court address) by 15 January, so parents must allow time for the post to reach us. If parents need to apply on paper, we recommend that they send applications by recorded post.

Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions. The Surrey Schools & Childcare Service can also provide impartial help in completing an application.

Applications received after the closing date without an exceptional reason will be treated as late and will not be considered until all on time applications have been processed. This may jeopardise the chance of a parent being offered one of their preferred schools for their child.

In addition to the online application, St Hugh's has a supplementary application form that can be found on our website and is submitted directly to the school office.

Covid testing arrangements

We have been asked to share this testing flowchart with our families which reflects the latest guidance on what to do if your child is either symptomatic or is identified as a close contact of someone with Covid.



Covid-19 testing guidance for children in Year 6 and below



Showing symptoms (this is day 0)



Keep the child at home & tell their early years/ primary setting.



Get a confirmatory PCR test. Call 119 or book a test online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test



Positive result



Day (1-10) Continue self-isolating for 10 days after first day of symptoms.

Lateral flow tests generally shouldn't be used for children under 5 years. Do not use lateral flow tests on anyone displaying symptoms.

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

- a high temperature this means they are hot to touch on their chest or back
- a new continuous cough this means coughing a lot more for an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- coughing episodes in 24 hours

 a loss or change to sense of smell or taste

 this means you have noticed they cannot
 smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste
 different to normal

Negative result



Return to early years/ primary setting if child is well (note: you should still make a decision as normal about whether your child is well enough to return)

Anyone aged 5 years and over, who has been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 and who is not legally required to self-isolate, is now strongly advised to take a rapid lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days (or until 10 days since their last contact with the person who tested positive if this is earlier). If any of these LFD tests are positive they should self-isolate and book a PCR test

If you are aged over 18 years and 6 months and are not fully vaccinated and you have been informed by NHS Test and Trace that you are a contact of a person who has had a positive test, you are legally required to stay at home and self-isolate

Under 5s are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily rapid lateral flow testing.



Return to early years/primary setting if child is well

For more information visit surreycc.gov.uk/coronavirus



Covid contingency planning

I am sure you have many questions about how schools will respond to the pandemic in January. Given the fast-moving nature of the situation, I am sure that the DfE will be issuing many guidance updates for schools over the holidays! At this time, we are working on the assumption that we will be operating on the same basis as this term. I will be looking at the situation again on 3rd January, and if need be I will update you all then. If you do not hear from me, you can assume there are no operational changes and I will see you all at the gate on Tuesday 4th January. Let us pray this is the case!

I will monitor the <u>Covid@sthugh-of-lincoln.surrey.sch.uk</u> email account on 3rd Janaury so if you have any cases to report which will impact the start of term please use this account to notify us.

School Website

We have been working hard behind the scenes to create a new school website (which works on a mobile phone!) The new site will go live over the next few days but we have been told it might take 48 hours before it is fully functional. Please bear with us if you are experiencing problems, we have been told all will be well in a couple of days. I really hope you like it!

For children who have medication kept at school

Can we ask all parents to check that their child's medication is in date before it is returned to the office after the holiday? Please could all medicines be returned on 4th January?

Finally, a huge thank you for all of the warm wishes, Christmas cards and gifts you have sent to staff. Your kind words mean the world to us. It really is a privilege to work with you and your children.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

God bless, Mrs Harper