

Polehampton News

Friday 12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



It has been so wonderful to have our children back at school this week – we've even had messages from our neighbours saying how lovely it is to hear the sound of children playing out again.

A couple of reminders

- Please keep 2m+ away from other parents and staff
- Please keep your children with you, so they aren't mixing with children from different bubbles
- Start and Finish times - see below. Please keep to these times, as we are aiming to reduce the numbers on site at any one time.
- **Thank you for your support with this!**



“COVID MATTERS” for emails

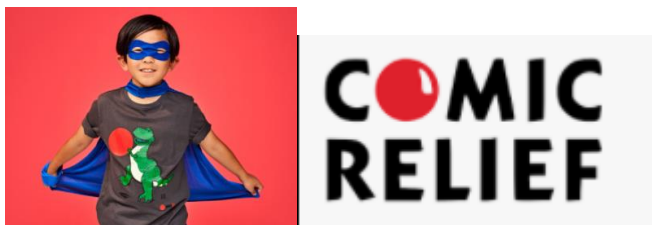
Whilst there is lots of good news about the proposed road map, we still could have bubble closures should we get a positive case in school. If you need to contact school to let us know your child has developed symptoms, that you have booked a test for them or to let us know about the results of a test, please put “COVID MATTERS” in the subject line of your email so we can search for them more easily.

Don't forget you can access lateral flow tests as householders of school pupils – see information leaflet attached.

Covid Winter Grant Application Deadline 31st March

The Covid Winter Grant scheme is still open for applications from families and individuals who are struggling this winter because of the covid pandemic to access food, fuel and other essentials.

Families and individuals or their representatives can enquire about the scheme and make an application by contacting the Citizens Advice One Front Door: <https://citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/coronavirus/>



Comic Relief 2021 - Funny Is Power

We will be supporting Comic Relief on **Friday 19th March** by making and wearing superhero masks! During this challenging time, we have all been superheroes, and it would be great to celebrate by dressing up and supporting this wonderful charity. You can either design and make your own superhero mask, or attached to the newsletter, are some mask templates which you can print, attach to some card, add some string or elastic and you're ready to go! You can also colour, add glitter, feathers or other embellishments to make your mask your own! We look forward to seeing your superhero masks on Friday 19th and we ask that you donate directly to Comic Relief this year by following the

link <https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>

We are also supporting the 'Share a Smile' campaign, simply print out the attached **Share a Smile** poster, add your favourite joke and bring it into school to share it with your class, or put it in your window to share with the world! If you are able, please remember to give a gift

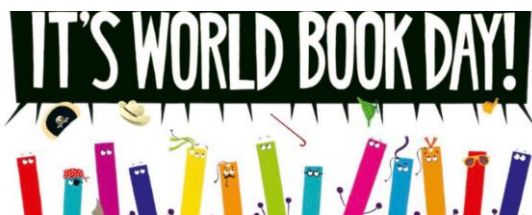
at <https://www.comicrelief.com/shareasmile/>

This year has shown we're at our best when we come together to be kind and look out for others. The smallest things really can make a big difference, and we hope that by wearing superhero masks and sharing jokes, we can have fun and raise funds to help people who are struggling right now. We need the power of funny to turn laughs into lasting change.



Parents' Meetings

We have now completed all our parents' meeting sessions. We hope you have found it as useful as we did. If there is anyone who has yet to meet with their child's class teacher, please contact the office, so those important meetings can be booked in



World Book Day Slideshow

Thanks to lots of parents who sent in photos of your children dressed up or with books for World Book Day last week. Well done, Miss Tibbett for putting this slideshow together for us! Enjoy! -

<https://vimeo.com/521823367>



Online Safety

We know that the children have been on their devices and using screens much more recently – we've needed to for their remote learning. Now we're back to school, it's a good time to review that and re-set the boundaries. Vodafone have come up with [Family Pledge](#) which covers

- Quality screen time
- Being kind online
- Healthy social media
- Happy gaming

We will continue to give you information about popular apps and games. This week

ROBLOX

We know this is a popular one! There is a great [Roblox checklist](#) attached which provides all the information about the online multiplayer game creation platform while giving you quick answers to common questions. For more information check out: <https://bit.ly/2KHBa97>



The Amazing School Run - 15th - 31st March

After our success in the recent local virtual cross-country race, I am hoping our super keen runners might like to take part in this free national virtual running (and walking) event.

This time, children have the option of choosing their distance to walk or run - 1k, 2k, 3k or 5k. The idea is that children can be signed up now, then every time they walk or run their chosen distance between the 15th and 31st March, their time can be added to their profile. This gives them a chance to improve their time over the two weeks.

More information can be found on the website - <https://thefixevents.com/the-amazing-school-run>. I recommend watching the short video explaining the signing up process and I would suggest registering children sooner rather than later (you don't need to wait until 15th March). When filling out the school's name, just write 'Polehampton' so that results from both of our schools get pooled together. If you have any questions, please ask! Good luck!

Mrs Newman – Cross Country Leader, Junior School



Relationships and Sex Education Policy Consultation

We have now reviewed the responses from the consultation. We have replied to those parents who gave us their name. A couple of other parents requested more information – could you get in touch with us now so we can reply to you directly?



PTA news

Our hardworking PTAs are doing another collection. They will be in Loddon Hall Car Park on Monday 29th March from 8-9am, so do start collecting for then.

Attachments

- Rapid Testing information leaflet – tests available to all household and bubbles of school pupils and staff
- Young Artist Summer Show information – the same information was emailed earlier this week
- Staff vacancy – [Junior School IT & operations assistant](#) - see vacancy page on our website

We hope you have a happy and safe weekend,
Miss Ball, Mrs Medcalf, Mrs Scott and Mrs Castell

Infant School

• Arrival

- 8.45am - if you have one child in either Yellow, Green or Bluebells Class
- 9.00am - families with infant or junior siblings in any class
- 9.15am - if you have one child in either Purple, Orange or Blueberries Class

• Collection

- 3.00pm - if you have one child in either Yellow, Green or Bluebells Class
- 3.15pm - families with infant or junior siblings in any class
- 3.30pm - if you have one child in either Purple, Orange or Blueberries Class

Which gates to use to arrive?

As the infant grounds are quite narrow by Blue Class and we have more families with little ones and buggies, we need to reduce the number of people cutting through the school.

- Year 2 and Blueberries Class – please arrive and leave via the gates on London Road. You can leave bikes/scooters by the fence in the Yr2 waiting area.
- Year 1 and Bluebells Class – please arrive and leave via the gates on Hermitage Drive. Please arrive down the pedestrian path and leave via the driveway. Bikes/scooters left alongside the fence on the field.

Please follow any markings you see on display – we have a one-way system in some areas to avoid crossing paths. A few parents will need to cross through the playground to drop children at different sides of the school – you may cut through the grounds. Everyone else, please help us by keeping to the gates for your class –thank you!!

Junior School

• Arrival

- 8.45am - if you have an infant sibling
- 9.00 - if you have only junior children

• Collection

- 3.00pm if you have an infant sibling
- 3.15pm if you have only junior children

Which gates to use?

- You can use any gates as we have much more space here.

Mornings

- Years 3 & 4 – you may bring your child onto the playground in the morning.

- Years 5 & 6 – please say goodbye at the gates in the morning. Parents with infant siblings to drop or collect – you may cut through the playground.
- All children to enter the school as they arrive, rather than play and wait for the bell

Afternoons

- Every child must be collected by someone in their household or support bubble.
- Year 5 and 6 can arrive or leave by themselves if parents have completed the relevant form. Please contact the admin team if you need help with that.