

# LEYBOURNE SS PETER & PAUL C E PRIMARY ACADEMY

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17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents,

Another week back – and the last week of our new Reception Class attending school with half day sessions. We are all so proud of how well they are settling in and look forward to welcoming the children fulltime from Monday.

We have today received notification of a further confirmed case of COVID-19 in school, the second in Year 5. I appreciate that some parents will be concerned by this, and perhaps wonder why we are not introducing additional measures to combat the spread of the virus, such as limiting the contact between children, or requiring close contacts to self-isolate. The latest PHE guidance does not require this, although it does require us to monitor the situation closely, and I would therefore ask parents to consider using Lateral Flow Tests themselves, and with their children, this weekend. Some of the children who have tested positive thus far have done so whilst not displaying symptoms of COVID-19, although these have developed after the tests in some cases. The guidance states that if a member of a household tests positive for COVID-19, other members of the household do not need to self-isolate if they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months, or if they have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccination. I would, however, urge parents to let us know if there is a case within the family or close contacts, just so that we can monitor the spread of the virus within our community. I appreciate that some parents may choose to keep siblings at home if there is a confirmed case within the family as a sensible precaution. We are continuing to encourage frequent hand washing and sanitising, good ventilation and the use of the “Catch it, Bin it, Kill it” strategy.

I would also ask that parents keep their children at home if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19, namely a cough, high temperature, or loss of sense of taste or smell. Please do not send them into school dosed up with Calpol or cough medicine but keep them at home and book a PCR test. Thank you.

With regard to other illnesses, please do keep your children at home for the full 48 hours after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea. We have had a few cases in one class since coming back to school, and are keen to stop the spread as far as we can. Thank you.

*We promote the learning and development of all children to achieve their full potential in a caring, happy, Christian environment.*

## **Caretaker Position**

I have today written to parents, informing you of Mr Van de Peer's forthcoming retirement, and giving information regarding our Caretaker vacancy. Please do feel free to pass on details of this post to friends and family members who may be interested. Further information regarding the post, and an application form, can be obtained from the school office.

## **Parent Helpers in School**

We are looking forward to welcoming parent helpers into school again later this term. Mrs Grinstead would be especially pleased to hear from parents who might be able to help us to reinvigorate our school library! In the first instance we would be very grateful to receive support from parents who already hold a Leybourne School DBS certificate. Parents coming into school to help will be required to show a negative Lateral Flow test result from the morning of the day they will be coming in to help. Thank you for your understanding and support.

## **Parking**

I am aware of concerns regarding dangerous and inconsiderate parking around the school. Please do park with due regard for others, even if it means a slightly longer walk to your car at the end of the day. Thank you.

## **Playground equipment**

A reminder that children should not be using the playground equipment after school, please. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Playground gates**

We will be opening one of the larger gates onto the playground at the end of the day, to allow improved flow of parents onto and off of the playground. Everyone is asked to enter the playground through the larger gate and to leave through the smaller pedestrian gate.

## **Stars of the Week / Leybourne Bright Sparks / Team Points**

Week ending 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Leybourne Bright Spark	Stars of the Week
Year 1	Rosalie	Leo, Ben S.
Year 2	Jessica	Sophie H., Caleb
Year 3	Pollyanna	Edward, Ben
Year 4	Darcie	Jake, Joshua, Harry W.
Year 5	Josh	Matthew D-M., Matthew S.
Year 6	Ava	Amelie, Joseph

Team Points		Week ending 10.09.21	
St Andrew	St David	St George	St Patrick
1583	1539	1165	1852

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Tina Holditch  
Headteacher

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