



# Newsletter

**2020/21 Issue 4 – Friday 23rd October 2020**

## Half-term

We are finally at the half-term break though the children have found this week very difficult. Everyone is very tired and I have to remember that the last time children did a whole half-term of school it was January/February – a really long time ago.

I hope that you all get a chance for a bit of a break over the half-term week. I'm guessing that most of you are staying in and around Fowlmere, but if you are planning a getaway, please remember to check the rules around quarantine on your return. In the UK, it is advised that you should not travel to Tier 3 areas.

## Covid Update

Positive cases in South Cambridgeshire had risen sharply for the previous two weeks, although have held steady for the latest week for which we have data. I am also aware that some of these cases refer to students who are living elsewhere in the UK, but are registered here in South Cambs. The rate of infection in South Cambs remains well below the national average.

Nevertheless, we have been reviewing our risk assessment in school to take account of the changes in local case numbers and the re-evaluation of the R number for the East of England and so I need to inform you that, if you need to come to the office to drop anything off, or pick up children for an appointment, you will need to wear a face covering on the school site. This does not apply to waiting on the Butts in the morning or afternoon, just coming onto the school site. Children are not required to wear face coverings at any time.

## Positive Cases

Please can you continue to let us know over half-term if your children are accessing any testing for Covid-19. Although the need for school to speak to close contacts diminishes over the holidays (because children won't have been in school), it is very useful for us to keep a picture of what is going on in our community. So far we have been very lucky!

Thank you for all you have been doing to keep to the rules and keep the school informed. It has been much appreciated by us all.

## Children in Need

We are planning to mark Children in Need which falls on Friday 13th November this year. There are a number of wellbeing activities which the organisers have planned for the whole week culminating in a Joe Wicks PE challenge.

We would like children to come in non-school uniform on the Friday for a small donation to the cause. Remember though, we will be joining Joe Wicks as he completes his challenge...

## Congratulations to...

- Lily (Class 1) for achieving her 15m swimming badge
- Eric (Class 2) for achieving his 25m swimming badge

## Reminders and Notes

- School begins again on Monday 2nd November.
- Individual photographs are on Thursday 5th November.

If you have anything you would like celebrating in our Congratulations to section, please email me at [head@fowlmere.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:head@fowlmere.cambs.sch.uk) with the subject, 'Newsletter'.

- Class 1 and Class 2 have a Diwali dance workshop on Wednesday 11th November
- The deadline for Y5/6 Bikeability forms is Wednesday 11th November

## Individual Photographs

Don't forget that it will be individual photographs on Thursday 5th November. We will try to get as many done as possible before children go out to break! If Thursday is your normal PE day, you are welcome to send your children to school in their usual uniform for the purpose of having their photo taken. Please remember that there will not be sibling or pre-school photographs this year.

In a slight change, you will receive a paper proof a few days after the photo day. This avoids the GDPR issues of sharing everyone's email address and contact details with the company.

## RSPB Teams Call

Class 4 held a Teams call with Peter Bradley from the RSPB to ask questions about the bird reserve. They were interested to learn about the history of the reserve and more about the birds which live there.

They were shocked and impressed when Peter said that swifts can spend up to three years on the wing – never landing or sleeping! They only land when they are nesting.

## Call for Plant Pots

Mrs Mann is planning a stunning daffodil display for the spring and has asked me to ask if anyone has any old, deep, plant pots that they no longer need. If they could be donated to school after half term, she would be very grateful. She would like pots to be at least 20cm deep. Thank you!

## Dates for your diary

As promised, some Christmas dates...

<b>Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October</b>	Half-Term Holiday
<b>Thursday 5th November</b>	Individual Photographs
<b>Wednesday 11th November</b>	Class 1 and 2 Diwali Dance Workshop
<b>Wednesday 11th November</b>	Remembrance Assembly
<b>Friday 13th November</b>	Children in Need Non-Uniform Day
<b>Tuesday 8th December</b>	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Play (shared by video on eSchools)
<b>Monday 14th December</b>	Christmas Crafts Afternoon
<b>Wednesday 16th December</b>	Flu vaccinations for all yeargroups
<b>Thursday 17th December</b>	Wear a Christmas Jumper Day
<b>Thursday 17th December</b>	Christmas Lunch (TBC)
<b>Friday 18th December</b>	Last Day of Term

Stay safe and well.

With best wishes  
Mr Philip Atkin  
**Headteacher**

