

Tickford Times

21st January 2022

COVID-19 Update

As you will be aware, we have had a large number of positive cases of Covid-19 in our school community over the past seven days. This has included 12 members of staff who are either suffering from Covid or have family members who have caught the virus. As a result, we've been very stretched this week, particularly in our younger year groups, and I am sure that you will join me in thanking all of the members of staff who have worked additional hours or covered extra duties as we have sought to make our way through a tricky week. We are lucky to have such a collaborative and committed team here at Tickford Park.

We are hoping to have most of our staff members returning over the first few days of next week and we look forward to welcoming them back. Thank you also to you, the parents of Tickford Park, for your patience, support and understanding at this time.

Please do keep in mind that, despite much talk from the government about reducing measures, cases do remain high in the school and we will continue to be cautious. We encourage parents to give their children regular lateral flow tests, particularly in those year groups where cases are high. At present, this is Year 1, 3 and Foundation Stage. If your child has any symptoms of COvid-19, please do not bring them to school until they have had a test, and please let us know if your child has returned a positive case (either lateral flow or PCR) so that we can track cases effectively, seek timely advice if needed and keep parents informed.

After-school Clubs

We are pleased to be able to restart our after-school clubs next week. If you have not received a Class Dojo message from Mr Cowper, then I am sorry to say that your child has not been successful in obtaining a place in an after-school club this term. We are sorry that we are unable to accommodate all children in clubs and are looking to expand our after-school offer in the months ahead. Children who applied for a club this term and were unsuccessful will be given priority in the Summer Term.

Young Citizens



We are always delighted to hear about pupils from our school who are supporting charities, or helping others outside of school.

This week our spotlight is on Ameilia who, along with her mum, has donated her hair to *The Little Princess Trust*, raising over £1150 for the charity. You can find out more about this charity on their website, [here](#).

Wear it Blue

On **Friday 4th February**, we invite children to **wear blue to school** in support of the local charity *Shay's Smiles*. In exchange, we ask for a small donation, which will be passed on to the charity. Donations can be made on School Gateway.

If children wish to, they can also purchase a *Shay's Smiles* wristband to support the charity, which is a member charity of Brain Tumour Research. You can find out [more information about this charity here](#), or on the [Shay's Smiles Facebook page](#).

Children can wear their own choice of blue clothes on this day, or blue accessories with their own clothes. Our only rules for these kind of days (for health and safety reasons) are: *'No high-heels and no dangly earrings, please'*

Lego Day

We are looking forward to our Lego Day, next Friday, when children across the school will have the chance to take part in Lego-themed activities and challenges.

All of you who have signed up for the 5-Day Lego Challenge, over the coming week, should receive your challenge sheet today. Don't forget to send your entries through to *Friends of Tickford Park* either [by e-mail](#) or through their [Facebook page](#). Good luck!

Children's Mental Health

On Friday 11th February, we look forward to celebrating Children's Mental Health Day at Tickford Park. During the day, children will have the opportunity to take part in activities that explore themes around the promotion of good mental health.

We invite children to wear their own clothes to school on this day, to give the day a more relaxed feel and help the children to feel a little more comfortable.



Thank you!

Thank you to the parents who have donated second-hand school uniform and unwanted Lego to the school over the past couple of weeks. We are very grateful for the donations and appreciate the time that parents have taken to sort it out and bring it in.