

Covid Update

This has certainly not been the week we had planned. Whilst beyond our control, we can only apologise for the impact of the unexpected and sudden disruption and changes caused by increasing Covid cases. Unfortunately, I have to let you know that we now have 5 confirmed cases of Covid this week and several more children awaiting results of PCR tests.

Please can I urge you to be vigilant for symptoms. These are typically:

- High temperature
- New or persistent cough
- Loss or change to taste or smell

Whilst these are the common symptoms, they can be more wide ranging in presentation and as we navigate the next few weeks, I would ask you to be particularly cautious and if your child is ill in any way, please keep them off school until they are well and get tested as a precautionary measure.

We are working with the local infection prevention team in Bury and have been advised to put in the following measures:

- Return to class bubbles
- Staggered start and end times
- Masks for staff in all communal areas
- Masks at collection and drop off
- Encouraging social distancing
- Increased focus on handwashing and respiratory hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning
- Increased staff testing—this will be daily
- Ongoing liaison with public health
- No out of school clubs (except for Out of Hours provision)
- No communal gatherings i.e. assemblies

These have been put in place with immediate effect in order to break the chain of transmission. Please be reassured, we will keep things as normal as possible in classrooms for the children. Please keep us informed if you or your child is unwell or has a positive test. We appreciate how parents have kept us informed to date and know we can work together to stop the spread as quickly as possible.

Newsletter

Friday 3rd December

Website: <https://www.summerseatmethodistprimary.co.uk/>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Summerseat_mps



Dates for your Diary—for dates further ahead, please visit the calendar on the school website.

Tues 7th Dec	Christmas Concert—2pm & 6pm POSTPONED
Tues 7th Dec	Friends—Christmas Shop GOING AHEAD
Weds 8th Dec	Pantomime—all classes ONLINE PANTO IN SCHOOL
Thurs 9th Dec	Christmas Concert—2pm POSTPONED
Fri 10th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day for 'Save the Children' - £1 donation (Full non-uniform) GOING AHEAD IN BUBBLES
Fri 10th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day GOING AHEAD IN BUBBLES
Mon 13th Dec	Friends—Craft for Christmas CANCELLED
Tues 14th Dec	Parent Meetings—Telephone Appointments GOING AHEAD
Weds 15th Dec	Parent Meetings—Telephone Appointments GOING AHEAD
Weds 15th Dec	Christmas Party (In school hours) GOING AHEAD IN BUBBLES
Fri 17th Dec	School closes for holidays— 2:30pm Carols at 2pm outside school — weather dependent (Christmas Jumpers)
Thurs 6th Jan	School Re-opens for new year

Panto

In line with our contingency plan, we will be going ahead with the panto, just virtually.

We will be watching the panto, 'Cinderella' delivered by pantoonline.co.uk. If you and your family are isolating, we will send you the code so you can watch the panto at your leisure. That way, none of our friends need to miss out.

Please can we ask that on Wednesday, children bring a small snack and drink into school for during the panto. We will all be watching together on Wednesday 8th.

Very kindly, Victoria Hall in Bolton (*where we were due to see the panto live*) have said we can move our booking to next year at no extra cost. I know some firms have taken a tougher stance so we do appreciate their flexibility on this.

Christmas Concerts

At present, we have made the decision to postpone these and keep the situation under review. The children have been working so hard on this and if we can do this live in the final week of term safely, we will. However, if not, we will be recording the show and sharing this that way. As you can appreciate recoding the show poses other challenges. I will get back to you with further information when I can.

Christmas Cards

If you would like to send Christmas cards to children in the class, please post these in the school post box by no later than Tuesday 14th December. The post box will be emptied and cards distributed on Mon 13th Dec and Thurs 16th. We need to leave time between the last post and distribution. If you prefer, you can send a virtual card to your class on Teams this year. Teachers will model how to the children.

Thank you

Thank you for your patience