



ANN EDWARDS CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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"Learning and achieving in a caring community."

Do to others what you would want them to do to you- Matthew 7:12

Friday 7th January 2022

Newsletter No 7

- Headteacher's Welcome
- Covid Update
- Staffing Update
- Bicentenary Celebrations
- Key Dates

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! I hope 2022 is treating you kindly so far. We are certainly enjoying a settled and productive first week back, beginning with our successful Philosophy Day on Wednesday. It was lovely to receive really positive feedback from our Philosophy 4 Children facilitator and I thought I would include an excerpt with you all:

Giving P4C the status of a whole day in this way will be so helpful in developing children's skills and thinking in this area, as well as their clear motivation for this area of learning.

It really sounds like that engagement and motivation is trickling over into other areas too - oracy, writing and forest school, and enriching subjects.

As I mention in the feedback document I have written, today shows that you are moving towards the Silver Award in some ways before you have achieved the Bronze! Amazing.

A huge Well Done to all of the staff team and to the children for achieving so well in the very first day of a new calendar year, as well as all of the work in implementing this new approach from September.

Yesterday, I led collective worship on the Christian celebration of Epiphany which led into considering gratitude to begin our work on the value of Thankfulness. This term, we will also be focusing on another of our Christian values, Creativity. To help with this, we are very pleased to be introducing a new scheme of work for the teaching and learning of drawing skills; huge thanks to Mrs McLoughlin and Mrs Jones for their work on this. This will be available here for you to look at soon: <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/information/curriculum-information/art-curriculum/> . This development constitutes part of our work towards the ArtsMark Award.

Along with this newsletter, today you will also receive phase newsletters and topic web information and INSET and holiday dates for 2022-23 as well as a letter yesterday regarding the anonymous GHLL survey and the term.

Covid Update

It has to be said that I do anticipate some significant challenges during this first half of the spring term due to COVID-19, specifically around likely staff shortages, an ever-changing roster of children in classes and addressing the cumulative effect of learning gaps from the last two years. To help this, we are focusing on quality daily provision and will continue to strive to be as open, clear and timely as possible in our communication with you.

There have been some recent changes to guidance which I thought would be helpful to summarise for you.

Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results:

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11th January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately but will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. Until 11th January, we will still require PCR tests for asymptomatic pupils.

Department for Education, 6.1.22



Please also note that:

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7. If you decide against taking LFD tests on day 6 & 7, you will still need to isolate for 10 days.

Karen Rolfe
Post 16 and COVID19 Coordinator
Education Commissioning for Learning, Gloucestershire County Council

We do need to receive the NHS notification of a logged LFD rather than a picture of the test itself. It is also important that you inform us of when either the symptoms began or the child tested positive so that we are all clear about the isolation period.

Close contacts of those testing positive with Covid do not now need to self-isolate if they themselves don't have symptoms but they do need to do daily LFDs for 7 days. (Please remember that a faint positive is still a positive!)

We continue to take protective measures in school which include:

- Additional hand-washing and use of sanitiser
- Reduction in pupil mixing including continuing to eat lunch in phases or classes, virtual rather than face-to-face collective worship, no large mixing events, reduction in visitors in the school building
- Consideration of class closures as required

Please continue to notify us should your child develop symptoms, have a positive test or that a close contact has tested positive and your child is testing daily by emailing covid@annedwardsprimary.co.uk.

This continues to be a challenging time for everyone and we will work hard to follow guidance and to keep our community safe; please continue to show tolerance and respect for school staff even if they're communicating tough messages – they are just doing their job. Thank you.

Staffing Update

Mrs Sarah Seymour has now begun her maternity leave and we wish her all the best. We are delighted to welcome Miss Chloe Mitchell who has taken over as Oak Class teacher; it has been lovely to have her on board this week. Also, Miss Sheldon will be undertaking her SENCO (special educational needs and disabilities coordinator) full-time for the remainder of this academic year.

Bicentenary Celebrations

Many of you may know that our wonderful school celebrated its 200th birthday in 2020. Unfortunately, that coincided with a global pandemic and so we have not been able to pull out all the stops and celebrate this in the way that the school and its community deserve. However, we are really hoping to be able to address that this summer and have already begun to plan for some fantastic opportunities to commemorate school life and achievements past and present. The three flagships events are as follows:

- A whole-school outdoor concert on midsummer eve, Tuesday 21st June
- An exhibition celebration Ann Edwards past and present at our church, All Hallows, on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June
- A special service to commemorate the school's bicentenary in All Hallows Church at 3pm on Sunday 26th June

The children will also be involved in some local history learning in school and around the village, including finding out about the life and legacy of 'Ann Edwards' (actually Ann Edward I believe) herself.

I am really looking forward to this! Watch out for further communications about how you, friends or family can get involved.

Yours Sincerely


Ian Moore
Headteacher

Key Dates

Young Voices concert (Birmingham)	Thursday 27 th January - POSTPONED
Heart Start Week	14 th -18 th February including skipping workshops 17 th / 18 th February
Last day of term	Friday 18 th February (3pm finish)
Half term	21 st February – 25 th February
World Book Day	Thursday 3 rd March
Parents' Evening	8 th March and 10 th March
Sports Relief/Comic Relief	Friday 18 th March
Class Photos	Monday 21 st March
YR5/6 Easter Experience	Tuesday 29 th March
Prayer Spaces in Class	Monday 4 th April
Provisional iSing Pop in-school day	Monday 4 th April
YR5 Cycling Proficiency	4 th April-8 th April – 25 th -29 th April
Easter Church Service	Wednesday 6 th April 9.30am
Last day of term	8 th April (1.30pm finish)
INSET Day – school closed	Monday 25 th April
First day of term	Tuesday 26 th April
Art Week	26 th – 19 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Yr 4 Braeside residential	4 th -6 th May
Key Stage 2 (Year 6) SATs	9 th -12 th May
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations	Friday 27 th May
Last day of term	Friday 27 th May (3pm finish)
Half Term	30 th May – 4 th June
First day of term	Monday 6 th June
EYFS New parents meeting	Wednesday 15 th June
Bicentenary Evening Outdoor Concert	Tuesday 21 st June, 6pm
Ann Edwards Armed Forces Day	Friday 24 th June
AE 200 th celebration exhibition at All Hallows Church	Saturday 25 th and Sunday 26 th June
AE 200 th celebration service at All Hallows Church	Sunday 26 th June, 3pm
Sports Day	Wednesday 6 th July
Year 6 evening performance	Tuesday 12 th July
Year 6 evening performance	Thursday 14 th July
Last day of term	Thursday 21 st July (1.30pm finish)

2022/3 term and holiday dates are now available at <https://annedwards.gloucs.sch.uk/calendar/> .



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