



Filey Junior School

Widening horizons and reaching our potential whilst respecting the world and each other,
within a happy, healthy and positive learning community.

Newsletter 13 - Monday 16th March 2020

Given the current situation concerning health and the spread of Coronavirus, we would like to issue the following information for parents and pupils so that we can avoid any confusion or unnecessary worry. Obviously, the current situation is causing some concern but we are following all the latest guidance given by the NHS, the Department for Education and North Yorkshire Local Authority. Our biggest message to children is around washing hands and ensuring coughs and sneezes are caught in a tissue or the elbow.

At present, it would appear that children only suffer from mild symptoms but this is complicated by how easily they spread the virus. This is obviously a concern when children come into contact with others, particularly older family members or those suffering from any other underlying medical condition.

In order to help reduce the risk of spreading the virus, we recommend that families follow the NHS guidance published on their website:

- Stay at home for 7 days if you have either:
- a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a **new, continuous** cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home. Testing for coronavirus is not needed if you are staying at home.

If, during the course of a school day, your child becomes ill or we notice the above symptoms, we will contact you to ask that your child is collected from school. Children who need to be isolated at home will be marked as such in registers - this will not be considered as an absence for the purpose of attendance monitoring if the above guidance is adhered to.

Residential Trips

Regarding the Year 4 trip to France this year, we have been advised that insurance will cover this if there is a need to cancel. As the trip is not scheduled to take place until the summer term, however, we have been advised to wait and see how the situation develops as, fingers crossed, things may have dramatically improved by the time the visit is due to take place. We will update you with more news following the Easter break.

Other residential trips will be risk assessed in a similar way and, once again, we will follow the advice given by the Government. As these trips are only to other parts of the UK, advice may be quite different to that regarding foreign travel. If, however, advice is not to travel, you will be reimbursed for any payments you have made via the school insurance scheme.

School closure, pupil and teacher isolation.

Having access to the excellent IT resources which we are lucky enough to possess, should a child need to self-isolate, or if the school is forced to close at any point, Chromebooks and chargers will be taken home. Teachers will set work, via the online capability of the Chromebooks, allowing children to complete work at home whilst receiving coaching, marking and feedback by teachers. Likewise, if your child's teacher needs to self-isolate but are otherwise fit and well, they will set work each day for your child(ren) to complete whilst at school. This ensures continuity for your children as they will still be receiving input and feedback from their regular teacher whilst under the supervision of another member of staff.

Parents' Evenings

Given the current situation, we will be postponing the Parent Evenings scheduled for later this term. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's classwork or time in school, we will, of course, be more than happy to discuss this with you - just contact your child's class teacher. When the situation becomes more stable and we have had time to take on board further advice, we will look to re-schedule the meetings.

Obviously, every family has their own, unique concerns and possible issues regarding the current situation. In most cases, there is no need to change what is currently happening and, as reported in the news, the risk to the majority of us is low. If you have any questions or need any further advice, however, we will be happy to discuss this and help support in any way we can.

Mr McCarthey & Staff