



Friday 21st January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have reached the end of the week and are beginning to see some slightly brighter mornings and evenings. Today you will find in this letter an update on covid restrictions and some news and information.

Covid procedures

Yesterday we received an update from the DFE which states that from next Thursday, staff are no longer required to wear face coverings in communal areas of the school and the staff are once again allowed to eat their lunch in the staff room.

As we have had pupil/ staff covid cases in each of the Aspire schools we are still going to be limiting visitors to those who are absolutely necessary and ask parents to make an appointment before coming into the building. We will keep you informed about ongoing changes and cases within the schools.

Other changes include the reduction of self-isolation from 7 days to 5. As previously explained, as long as the person who has had covid tests negative on day 5 and 6 they can return to school on day 6 immediately after the test. If this test is positive they must continue to isolate until 2 tests are completed which are negative 24 hours apart or 10 days of isolation is completed.

Forest Schools

Year 3 are currently enjoying their day at Forest schools today. The next date for a Forest school trip is 11th March and this one is for Year 4.

Kingswood Centre Day Trip

Thank you to all year 5 and 6 pupils who returned their payment and money for this trip. This has now been booked and we will confirm all details nearer the time.

Swimming

We are currently unable to use the pool at Sutton Valance School, due to the number of covid cases within that school. Ulcombe and Leeds and Broomfield are therefore currently unable to attend swimming lessons. We will update you as this changes. Please contact Mrs Steer or Mrs Masters if you have any queries.

Residential Trip

We have secured a booking for a residential trip for next year's Year 6 and next year's Year 5 pupils. The trip will take place in December 2022. Mrs Steer will write to parents with more details in the coming weeks.

Astronomy Roadshow at Kingswood

The Year 5/6 or 4/5/6 classes in each of the schools have been invited to Kingswood Primary to take part in an Astronomy Roadshow as part of their Space topic. Thank you to Mrs Syred, our science leader for securing a grant for this experience and making the arrangements.

KCC improvement advisor visits

We have a series of visits this term, from KCC improvement advisors who have and will be working with the Aspire subject leaders to make sure we are developing and delivering a good quality curriculum in all national curriculum subjects. These visits are always useful in terms of identify strengths and next steps

Wishing you all pleasant family weekends,

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher
Aspire Federation