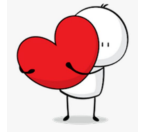




Our value for February is Love

Thank you to all of you for all that you have done this half term, whether your children have been at school or you have been learning at home. Enjoy spending this week loving yourselves, your family and the beautiful outdoors.



Catshill Federation February Covid Protocols

Dear Parents/Carers

It is vital that you follow the steps below to keep us informed if your child has Covid symptoms during the February Half Term holiday as ***it may mean we have to contact other class/bubble members as they will have to self-isolate.***

Friday 12th February, Saturday 13th February and Sunday 14th February 2021

Parents of any child ***who has been attending school*** showing any covid symptoms on these days **MUST**

- Arrange for **immediate** testing:
<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/condition> or call 119
- **Inform us immediately** using the email address (covid@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk) and then again when you get the result of the test with the following information:

Pupil Name Class Contact Phone Number

The email inbox will be monitored by staff up to 4pm each day up to Sunday 14th February 2021.

We will then be able to inform parents/carers of any child(ren) who need to self-isolate due to having been in contact with the positive case along with informing the local response team.

From Monday 15th February 2021 onwards

Parents of any child starting to show any covid symptoms on these days or have a positive test result **do not** need to inform school but will be required to self-isolate for 10 days and their close contacts will be identified through the national Contact Tracing Service (CTS).

Sunday 21st February & Monday 22nd February 2021

- Parents of pupils who need to continue their self-isolation into the new term should inform us of their absence by emailing covid@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Parents should be reminded that under no circumstances should any pupil return to school if they are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms (however minor) or are unwell in any other way. They should arrange for a test and inform the school.

I am sure that you will understand that this advice is designed to protect all of our families this half term, particularly those with family members who are elderly and/or vulnerable.

Our provision after half term will continue as it currently exists. As always, when we know more about any changes to provision we will communicate it to you as soon as we have planned a safe way forward for children & staff. Many thanks for your continued support during this time.

Mr Paul Essenhigh, Executive Headteacher



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to those that are celebrating Chinese New Year today and the start of the Year of the Ox. In Chinese culture, the Ox is a valued animal. Because of its role in agriculture, positive characteristics, such as being hardworking and honest, are attributed to it.



新年快乐



Reopening of Schools

The Government has advised previously that the earliest that schools will start any wider reopening will be 8th March. This date is dependent on reduction of covid cases, hospital admissions and, in the words of the Prime Minister, "depends on lots of things going right".

It could be that decisions are made at a regional level. There is currently no further guidance as to what this will look like or which year groups will return and we do not expect to hear more until 22nd February at the earliest.

It is vitally important that children continue to access their remote learning daily (unless they are in school) as this will mean that they are less likely to fall behind.

A message from Catshill Library



To support families with younger children who can't come in to the library to browse, but who might not wish to reserve specific titles, we've made Children's "6 Book Bundles" available to request for Pre-school or Key Stage 1 children via [Reserve and Collect online form](#) on the homepage of the website or via the Customer Contact Centre 01905 822722.

Covid Reminders



If your child has had a covid test, please inform us as we need to report this on our daily information return to the DfE.

We also need to report any positive cases so please let us know the results when they come.



Lockdown Restrictions

Please be aware that there are children and families within our community who are currently positive with coronavirus.

Please do continue to follow the rules and do not put others at risk by allowing sleepovers, meetups and playdates. The virus is so easy to pick up and pass on; many people do not realise they have it. We closed a bubble in school this week following a positive case.

If the child is then coming into school, they are putting lots of other families and our school staff at risk.

If the child is not coming into school, they will still be putting your family at risk.

We know that allowances are in place for childcare/support and this message is aimed at those who are not complying with the rules that are in place to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

If you know that someone is breaking the rules, please use the non-emergency police line on 101 to keep our community safe and reduce the risk of us becoming ill from this awful virus.



www.catshillfirst.co.uk



01527 872913



office@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk



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Technical Support

Are you having any issues with connectivity, data or other online problems? We may be able to help. We have sim cards, dongles and other ways that we might be able to support our families who are not able to access our full remote learning offer.

We have lent out a number of chromebooks that we received from the DfE and are awaiting more. If you would like to be added to our waiting list to borrow a chromebook, please contact school and we will discuss your needs.

It is vitally important that children continue to access their remote learning daily (unless they are in school) as this will mean that they are less likely to fall behind.

Printing

We have tried to make sure that our online learning does not rely on you having a printer. If you need the work printing out and are able to collect it, send your child's class teacher a message via epraise and we will print off a pack for you.



Fuel Vouchers

If you or someone you know is struggling to pay their fuel bills as a result of the pandemic, please use this link to see how to access fuel vouchers.

https://mcusercontent.com/daf827699263bf5466a727559/files/36822c8b-5bd6-4ac4-af5-83c241d620ce/Worcs_fuel_vouchers.pdf

E-safety Reminder

We will keep this reminder about e-safety on our newsletter as we know that the use of internet and technology has increased. Please continue to be mindful of the dangers of being on-line as well as the advantages. Please see our school website for further details [eSafety](#) or use the support on the Think You Know website [Thinkuknow - home](#).



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