

Whitehouse Newsletter

20th May 2021



School Details: Tel: 0191 643 2890 Headteacher: Ms R Woods

Twitter: @whitehouseps Email: office@whitehouseprimary.org.uk Website: whitehouseprimary.org.uk

Covid-19 Indian Variant Update- Surge Testing

Keeping COVID-19 rates as low as possible is our number one priority to protect the public and to We have robust measures in place across our school and our staff continue to test twice weekly. **Everyone** is now invited to test twice weekly as part of their everyday lives and we continue to encourage our school community, including parents/guardians, to do so. Anyone with symptoms must *book a PCR* test and must self-isolate immediately. Unfortunately Public Health are still hearing stories of people going out and about when they should be isolating which presents a significant risk of transmission.

With the news that the rate of transmission of the Indian variant increasing at a very rapid rate in North Tyneside, our area will be part of the Surge Testing programme. Please do everything you can to protect our community. I know of 4 classes having to isolate in one local school and we want to prevent this happening here. There are many press statements being released and all Headteachers have weekly meetings with the Director of Public Health. Their message is quite clear:

- The rate of infection in North Tyneside has doubled in the last 7 days-we are one of 6 areas that have been added to the government's Enhanced List. Can all adults please re start wearing your masks on the school site, until this infection rate decreases.
- Please use the Surge Testing Mobile units to get a PCR test. This is to identify asymptomatic cases. Units are located in north Shields and Wallsend (hotspot areas) and are open from this Saturday from 10am. Further mobile test units may follow, but we need to encourage everyone to use them, particularly in the North Shields area. These tests are available to everyone.
- Please report any positive results to the school, so we can inform the PH tracing system for schools.
- Over 50's are encouraged to take up their vaccinations, and bring forward their 2nd vaccinations.
- Bookings for vaccinations are available to over 34 year olds.
- Track and Trace over half term- please email office@whitehouseprimary.org.uk to inform us of any positive cases.
- Hands-face-space control measures remain in place. Please remember this when accessing the school site and are in a queue.
- No adult visitors in school, without a pre booked appointment.

May half term begins on Fri 28th May and school reopens on Mon 7th June.

Friday 18th June is a designated Teacher Training Day

Young Carers Week

Week beginning the 7th of June is Young Carers week. We will all be learning about young carers, the responsibilities they have and the special skills it takes. We will be watching presentations about what it means to be a Young Carer. We will be starting a weekly meet up session in school for any children who are young carers. It will also have details about the staff members students can come to if they think they are a young carer and information about the North Tyneside Young Carers group. Mrs Marsden and Mrs Haggie are the trained Young Carers Lead staff in school.

Wanted for Nursery

Nursery would like any donations of unused pushchairs/prams (not dolls prams) which are in reasonable condition. They would also like any donations of unused storage shelves or units (Ikea) and any large milk plastic bottles (4 pints) to make a milk bottle igloo! Please ensure that any donations are completely clean. We will isolate any donations for the required period of time. Thankyou.

PC Offer

We have obtained the full PCs as requested by a small number of parents last week. Please arrange collection of them from Monday 24th May. Remember, they have been wiped clean and you will need to install programmes to run them. Mr Rawsthorne has collected them and we hope that they are well used!

Y 5 & Y6 Girls Mentoring Programme.

Please will the families of girls who have been identified as potentially benefiting from this programme, send their agreement into school.

Please do not send shared food/toys/ birthday treats into school until further notice. Thankyou.