

Friday 5th November



Dear Families,

I hope that you all managed to have a good half term break and took the opportunity for some enjoyable family time and fun things to do. The weather wasn't ideal, but I'm sure that you all enjoyed the rest and break from routine.

As you are all aware the country has entered its second national lockdown. The actions will only work effectively with your compliance, support and understanding. To date, although some families have needed to self-isolate at home, we have not needed to close any of our class bubbles. We feel that this is due to the arrangements we have put in place at school and due to measures taken by yourselves at home. **We need this to continue.**

We therefore request you to do the following in the weeks to come:

- wear a face mask when on school premises and outside the school gate
- make sure only one adult per family brings children to school
- arrive and leave school promptly at the correct time
- **do not stay in the playground to talk or wait**

For further information about the lockdown please see the summary from Leicester City Council on the next page.

Black History Month

October saw us recognise Black History Month in school. Throughout the month of October classes have been looking at characters who have led remarkable lives and have significantly impacted on the history of their countries and the future of how we live our lives. There has been a particular emphasis on the courage of individuals who stand up for what we know is right, even if others try to persuade us that it is wrong. Some of the important figures that we have learnt about are Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Barack Obama and Rosa Parks amongst others. This may be something that you could chat with your children about and undertake further research to understand their remarkable lives. Recognising the diversity of our community is one of those things that is really important to us as a school and is what makes Montrose a welcoming and inclusive school.

Autumn

Autumn certainly seems to be rushing past this year. I have seen evidence of autumn arts and crafts taking place in school recently. The children in the nursery came in this week to see an enormous pumpkin! How Mrs Gray managed to fit it into her car boot we will never know!



Best wishes,

Mr. Owens, Headteacher

Class P.E days

Please send children to school in their P.E kit on P.E days.

Monday

Year 1 and Year 4

Tuesday

1BM/4GM alternate weeks

4R, Year 5 and Year 3

Wednesday

Reception and Year 2

Thursday

IBM/4GM alternate weeks

1S, Year 3 and Year 6

Friday

Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

Any changes and you will be notified on Class Dojo.



Children in Need

Friday 13th November

We are celebrating by wearing non-school uniform and the theme is spots!

Please send your child with a donation on the day.

Any worries?

Our Family Support Worker, Donna McAteer, is available to support with a range of issues. Contact her at school or on 07378 285273.

Diary Dates

Friday 13th November

Non-school uniform - Children in Need

Friday 18th December

End of Term

Tuesday 5th January

School Opens

We will endeavour to inform you in advance of events happening at school however we cannot plan too far ahead due to changing advice regarding Coronavirus.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT VIDEO

The children are all working hard learning Christmas pieces for the Christmas Concert Video! Hopefully there will be contributions from all instruments and some group pieces too.

The choirs (Singing Stars and Montrose Choir) have been having weekly zoom sessions as we cannot meet together face to face yet. These sessions have been great fun, if a little strange! We are open to new members – the more the merrier. Both choirs are also recording songs for the video.

Mrs Rupp has ClassDojo sites for all the musicians and choir members, so if you want to keep up to date with things happening then keep checking your pages. All information and instructions for the Concert video are on the site.



Let's keep music alive!!

Can my child go to school today?

During the Coronavirus pandemic, children and young people should isolate if they are displaying symptoms.

COVID symptoms are:

A high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

A new, continuous cough – coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

How is your child feeling today?

My child has at least one COVID symptom

- Self-isolate and [book a COVID test](#) or call 119
- Do not go to a GP, hospital or pharmacy for a test
- All members of the household should stay at home until the test result is known.
- Your child should not attend any out of school provision, childcare, activity groups or clubs during this time.
- Visit [nhs.uk](#) for advice on when to stop isolating and return to school after a positive or negative test.

My child has no COVID symptoms but they have diarrhoea or vomiting

- **Keep at home**
- Remain off school until at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.
- Remain off school until they feel well enough to return. Seek medical help from a GP if needed (if your surgery is closed, use NHS 111 online and only call 111 if you cannot get help online).
- A COVID test is not required for diarrhoea and vomiting without the other symptoms above.

My child has no COVID symptoms but they feel unwell.

- **Keep at home**
- Remain off school until they feel well enough to return. Seek medical help from a GP if needed (if your surgery is closed, use NHS 111 online and only call 111 if you cannot get help online).
- A COVID test is not required for diarrhoea and vomiting without the other symptoms above.

My child feels fine and has no COVID symptoms

So long as your child feels well, has not been told to self-isolate and there are no other household members with COVID symptoms, it is OK for them to attend school.

CHILDREN'S BOOKBUS temporary TIMETABLE

A free and friendly mobile library service
for children 0-11 years

Reduced service due to Covid-19 will run from 21 September 2020. The full range of library services will not be available at this time. Books will be collected and returned from outside the BookBus.

Monday

SAFFRON LANE, EYRES MONSELL

Wigston Lane/Aylestone Drive
3.30pm - 4pm

Heathcott Road/Neston Road
4.15pm - 4.45pm

Pendlebury Drive
5.20pm - 5.50pm

Ambleside Drive
6pm - 6.30pm

Tuesday

THURNBY LODGE/NETHERHALL, NORTHFIELDS, HUMBERSTONE

Dudley Avenue/Kirminton Gardens
3.30pm - 4pm

Tolcarne Road
4.15pm - 4.45pm

Rushford Drive
5.30pm - 6pm

Heybridge Road (next to small park)
6.10pm - 6.40pm

Wednesday

BRAUNSTONE FRITH, NEW PARKS, MOWMACRE HILL & STOCKING FARM

Ryder Road/Denham Close
3.30pm - 4pm

Falconer Crescent/Hassal Road
4.15pm - 4.45pm

Jersey Road/Mowmacre
Housing Office
5.20pm - 5.50pm

Ingold Avenue/Hattern Road
6pm - 6.30pm

Thursday

BRAUNSTONE

Heyford Road
3.30pm - 4pm

Corfield Rise
4.10pm - 4.40pm

Elmsthorpe Rise
5.15pm - 5.45pm

Erdyngton Road
5.55pm - 6.25pm



Although we do not have whole school assemblies currently we still celebrate children's achievements. Mr Owens, Miss Jackson and Mrs Cross pop into classes each week to give out awards. Well done to all of the children who have earned certificates or badges during the last two weeks.



leicester.gov.uk/libraries libraries@leicester.gov.uk
0116 454 0045 @LeicesterLibrar f/leicesterlibraries



Advice from Leicester City Council

STAY at home. That's the message from the government and public health experts, as a second national lockdown began yesterday.

If the transmission of the highly infectious coronavirus is to be slowed down, we all need to follow the rules rigidly – staying at home as much as possible, working from home where possible, travelling only when essential, and severely restricting our contact with other people.

For the next four weeks, people will no longer be able to meet anyone from outside their household or bubble in a private garden – but someone on their own will be able to meet another person on their own in a public open space. When around other people, you must stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or bubble.

Meeting anyone indoors, who isn't part of your household or support bubble, is prohibited.

During lockdown, overnight stays and holidays in the UK and abroad will not be allowed. People will not be able to stay in a second home, or stay with anyone they don't live with (or are in a support bubble with) – and students at the city's universities must not move between their student home and their family home during lockdown.

Schools, colleges and universities will remain open throughout the lockdown. The city council's parks will also remain open, so people can enjoy time in the fresh air each day.

While supermarkets and essential shops and services are remaining open, and food outlets will still be able to provide takeaway/delivery services, museums, gyms, leisure centres, hairdressers, beauty salons, theatres, cinemas, bars, restaurants and non-essential shops and services are amongst the businesses that will be closed.

Leicester's director of public health Professor Ivan Browne said: "For the next four weeks, the message is very simple: you must stay at home as much as possible to protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.

"People in Leicester have had their lives restricted for longer than most, but I would urge everyone in the city to stay strong and keep going during the difficult weeks ahead. This new national lockdown gives us the opportunity to get the numbers in Leicester as low as possible, so that when the lockdown ends, we are able to go into the lowest possible tier. If we manage to do this, Leicester will have fewer restrictions and be able to live more normal lives.

"As winter approaches, and the virus is passed on more easily, we simply have to follow the rules, if we are to succeed in reducing its spread. As well as protecting our loved ones, it is in all our interests to do the right thing and get us to where we all want to be.

"It's important to remember that small steps can make a big difference to the spread of the virus. Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, and if you do have to go out for essentials, wear a face covering and maintain social distancing from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

"If you develop symptoms, get a test as quickly as possible – and if you're told to self-isolate, please do so for as long as you're told to."

Are your children playing AMONG US?

Please take the time to read the following e-safety information

'Among Us' is a massively popular game being played at the moment.

Unfortunately, many young users of this game are seeing explicit chat and more worryingly are joining strangers on third party apps like, Discord, WhatsApp and FaceTime. The use of third party apps is a big e-safety issue and this particular game heavily embraces this trend.

'Among us' is a strategy game that can be downloaded onto any computer and can also be played on a mobile device. Players take on a role either as a 'crew mate' or an 'imposter'. Imposters walk around the game essentially trying to kill the other characters and sabotage missions. The idea is to work out who the bad guys are. So that Crew members can discuss who may be the imposter they typically add each other on third party apps and talk about the suspects.

In the game, at the outset, you are given three different ways of playing. You can Host a game whereby you select the players you want to play with, you can set up a 'private' game whereby you could play with friends who you have given a 'room code' or you can play in the public game where you play with random people from around the world. The game must be played as a multi player game and as such advising your children to play it without communicating in some way is not possible. Children are agreeing to play without communication but then will do this behind their parents back. In its current form the game is unmoderated and as such if a child plays with strangers they will experience bad language and on a daily basis they will sometimes be asked sexual questions. They are also likely to experience racist, sexist and homophobic language.

We think you can add a filter but it seems that people get around this by changing the style of chat using numbers and symbols etc. The speed at which this game is growing has surprised the developers and in the future (2021) they will release a second version of the game that may be safer. In our opinion, if your child is 14 years old then they will probably be able to handle the issues that arise but once you go younger than this, in particular where children are in Primary School its hard to see how they can play this safely unless an adult is actively involved with them. Its our view that the safest method of play is by selecting the 'Private' game option and then making sure that the only people with the room code are the child's actual real life friends. We would advise against downloading this app and then letting a Primary Age child 'get on with it' because you need to play with several people at once the temptation is huge to join the public game.

If the child meets a bad person in the public game it is highly likely that person will then invite them to a private or hosted game. The reports we have received mainly concern children being asked sexual questions. As we have said, our biggest worry is that the children have made friends within this game and now have an online friendship being developed over Discord, WhatsApp or FaceTime.

Thank you as always for taking the time to read this.

Best Regards John and John,

EST—E Safety Training



Coronavirus is still with us

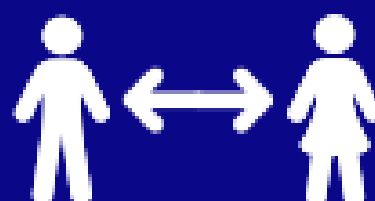
Let's help to protect our school



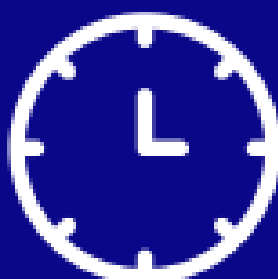
Keep children at home if they, or any household member, display coronavirus symptoms or are awaiting test results



Wear your face covering



Maintain social distancing at all times



Keep to allocated drop off and pick up times



Keep clear of the gate area



Follow Government advice and guidance at all times

Please help your school to stay healthy

CORONAVIRUS

PROTECT
YOURSELF
& OTHERS

For up to date information
on staying safe at school go to
[leicester.gov.uk/
staysafeatschool](https://leicester.gov.uk/staysafeatschool)

