

Hello. This half term is progressing well with lots of very interesting and exciting projects. We launch our new library space really soon, and have embraced Children's Mental Health Week (7th—13th February). Look out for more information on these later in this newsletter and on the news & blog section of our website.

A reminder too that we break up after school on Friday 18th February for half term, returning on Monday 28th February. World Book Day is the first Thursday back after half term break. See page 2 for more details of WBD2022 events.

As ever we would also like to encourage parents and carers to ensure they are up to date with the latest guidance in relation to Covid19, specifics of which can be found on page 3. Families intending to travel abroad during half term should ensure they are aware of any testing requirements and/or quarantine periods upon return and keep the school updated. **We really do appreciate the efforts** pupils, staff and families are taking to help keep cases as low as possible, diligent actions make a real difference and the number of cases is currently going down within the school. The latest Government guidance for Parents and carers relating to school settings during COVID-19 can be found [here](#)



It is Children's Mental Health Week and our pupils have been having discussions and activities about supporting their mental health. The theme this year is "Growing Together", and the aim has been for children to understand and talk about the fact that people change and grow in many ways both physically and emotionally. As physical growth is easier to see we have been working on recognising the emotional growth pupils have made.

We have talked about changes they have noticed themselves as well as changes others may have noticed in them. Pupils have also set emotional goals they would like to reach and have worked out the steps needed to reach their goals. They have also shared what helps them when they are angry, sad, upset, or worried and written or drawn these ideas in the hope that these ideas can help others as well as themselves.



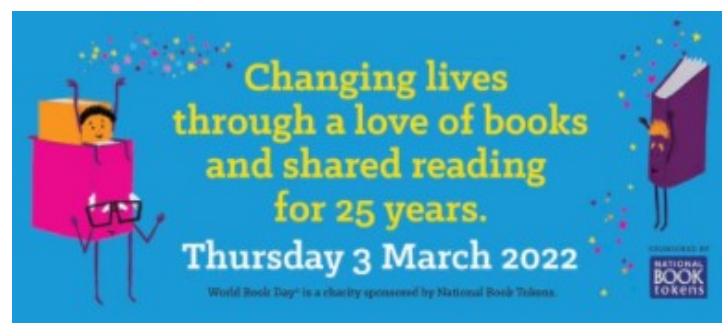


We are very excited that our New Library will be open on Thursday 3rd March, coinciding with World Book Day 2022. The library has been entirely transformed and dressed in a jungle theme. We hope you agree that it looks very inviting. Brand new books have been purchased which also means that surplus/old library books are now available to be selected by pupils and taken home to keep. Encourage your children to take some books away.

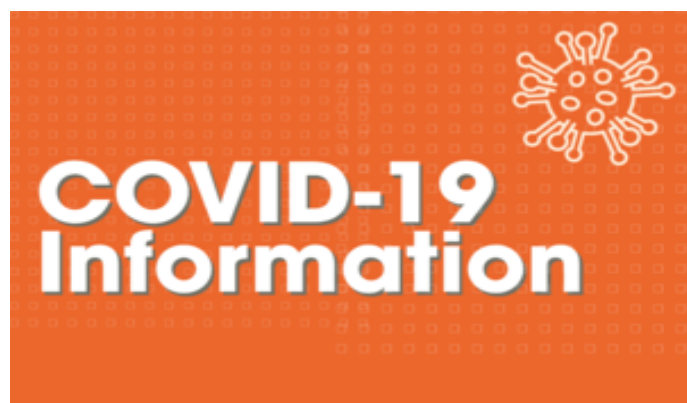


We look forward to celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 3rd March 2022**. Come to school dressed up as your favourite book characters! We can't wait to see our playgrounds, classrooms and corridors brimming with your chosen outfits. World Book Day always brings a special buzz to school.

We are hosting a Book Fair in school the **week beginning 7th March 2022**. Pupils will be able to browse books in school and take home a wish list to order and pay online from home. World Book day vouchers will be distributed to all pupils which can be used against any purchase.



Free School Meal Vouchers—February Half Term vouchers will be sent by email so do update us if your email address has changed. The cut off date for updating information or new eligibility is **Friday 18th February, 10am**.



Covid19 Test reporting. With changes relating to isolation periods, and the wide use of lateral flow tests to report positive cases, we would like to clarify steps that parents/carers should take in relation to school. In all cases referred to below, GOV.UK test confirmations should be sent to wynstreamadmin@ecfschools.org.uk

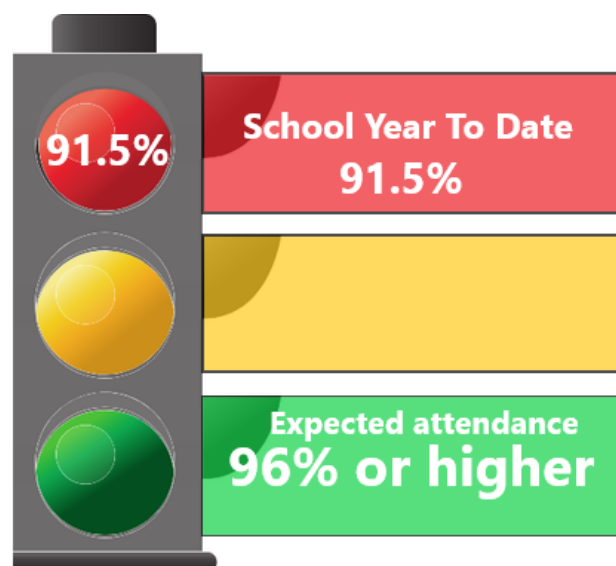
1. In the event of a **lateral flow test appearing positive for a pupil** resulting in school absence, please register the test on the [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) website. The confirmation text/email can then be sent to school to ensure the correct absence coding.

2. In the event of a **child returning from abroad**, evidence of a Covid test may still be required depending on country visited. Please send the test outcome to the email address above. If a lateral flow test is used please ensure you register the test result at [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) and send the confirmation email/text to the school email address above.

3. In the event of a **child isolating following a positive Covid test**, it is now possible to be released early from the 10 day isolation period providing that the child has 2 x negative lateral flow tests. Effective from Monday 17th January The 1st test can be no earlier than Day 5, the 2nd test has to be on Day 6, no less than 24 hrs after the 1st test. If the Day 6 test is negative then children can return to school that same day. Please register the test result on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), with the confirmation email/text sent to school.

School Attendance - Ongoing Reporting.

The information below shows that whole school attendance for the dates between 6th September 2021 and 10th February 2022 is currently **91.5%**, static from when reported 2 weeks ago. This is below the expected attendance rate of **96% or higher**.





Year 2 Pizza Making. Over the last half term, year 2 have been busy learning all about what makes a healthy diet. We then designed and made a pizza using lots of food technology skills like cutting and grating. Our favourite toppings were pepperoni and ham and our least favourite was black olives.



Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to Parker Stevens, Honour Stentiford, Malakai Graham, Naranjan Surej, Tymon Czekaj, William Lovering, Harry Carpenter, Shakyla Graham, Maira Yaqoob, Isla Land, Kenzie Meeson, Bailey Hoile, Hamna Lodhi, Evie Coles, Nikola Jaworska, Lucie Owen, James Bickel- Brimilcombe, Anabiya Yaqoob, Kian Marshall-Ley, Harmony Taylor, Nathaniel Down, Isla Croft, Sibin Sabu, Adriana Simakou, Annalise Rhodes, Logan Gwyther, Isabelle Daly and Mia Kelly.



Is your child a Young Carer? There is support available. A young carer is a person under 18 years old who provides or intends to provide care for another person. This can be caring for a family member or friend of the family who is physically or mentally ill, frail elderly, disabled or misuses alcohol or substances.

Support for young carers in Devon.

Devon County Council commissions an organisation called Devon Carers to assess and support the needs of young carers aged up to 18 years old in Devon. Contact and/or a referral can be made to the service directly or where you give consent, a school practitioner can make a referral to the service on behalf of a young person and their family.

Devon Carers will then undertake an assessment of young carer's needs and the support available to meet their needs. The support offered aims to help young carers to have the same life opportunities as their peers, feel supported at school, have good physical and emotional health, access and achieve their potential in education, have their voices heard and be prepared for adulthood and independence.

You can contact Devon Carers Young Carers Service via their website, click [here](#)

Or by telephone [03456 434 435](tel:03456434435)

Alternatively, in school you can contact Stuart Fraser or Danni Diamond on 01392 284990 Ext 3031 who will be happy to talk things through and guide you through referral.

Key School Dates;

February Half-Term Holiday. Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February inclusive. First day back in school is Monday 28th February.

World Book Day 2022. Thursday the 3rd March.

Easter Holidays. Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April inclusive. First day back in school is Monday 25th April.

How to Respond and not React



**Do you ever feel you are about to explode?
That your child might too?**

We can help turn tantrums into calm connections

Presented by Advisory Teacher, Linda Willmott and Family Worker, Jeff Cornish from the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team

A free, informal workshop for parents and carers of Devon Primary School age children

This event will be held virtually on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 at 10am - 11.30am

There are times when we all feel overwhelmed with our emotions. Children feel like this too. In this workshop, we will explore why your child behaves in the way that they do; how you can respond to help them calm and how to re-connect to strengthen your relationship with them. We will also offer some specific de-stressing techniques that both you and your child can start using straight away.

We are joined by a parent who will share his own experiences of family life and the transformational impact it had on his family when he changed his approach as a parent.

Come and join us to find out how you can help build a healthier relationship with your child and develop a sense of inner calm.

To book your free place, please email Sue Vanstone
sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com