



A BUSY WEEK IN THE NEWS

This week has included a number of big news items, notably the 'end' of Covid legislation and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. Both affect us here in school.

Many of our older pupils have raised concerns about the news of the invasion, and teachers have managed these sensitively in classrooms. As children have an awareness of previous large scale conflicts, some appear particularly worried about it escalating further. Please be aware of what they are seeing and hearing in the news or social media and discuss their worries openly.

With regard to covid, media reports often open with the headline, '*People are no longer legally required to isolate with covid-19*'. This masks the fact that there is still an expectation that people with covid-19 *should* isolate which remains the case until April. Please be aware of the current expectations, listed below.

COVID – WHAT SHOULD YOU DO NOW?

PEOPLE WHO ARE UNWELL

Anyone with covid **symptoms** should **isolate** at home, arrange a **PCR test**, and await the results. If unsure, use 111 online first.

Anyone who **tests positive** with a PCR test should self-isolate for a **minimum of five days**. They may end their isolation when they have had **two consecutive negative LFD tests, 24 hours apart**.

CONTACTS OF CASES

Contacts of positive cases are no longer required to self-isolate, nor do they have to take daily LFD tests.

This means that children/staff in households with positive cases **are expected to attend school** as normal. If they develop **symptoms**, they should follow the guidance listed above.

LFD TESTING

This has now been returned to a system only for people who do **not** feel unwell or **have had a positive PCR**. Anyone who feels unwell and suspects covid symptoms should be tested by PCR.

PARENTPAY BALANCES

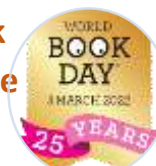
With the financial year end approaching next month, we ask that parents make payment for outstanding balances for *meals, nursery or wraparound care* by February 28th.

If you require support accessing your Parentpay account, or need to discuss an outstanding balance, please contact Miss Sloane by phone or email.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We are looking forward to seeing pupil's vegetable or rock versions of book characters on Thursday 3rd March.

All children will receive a free book and book voucher as usual, to be used at a bookshop.



PTFFE MEETING – ONLINE

All are welcome to join a PTFFE meeting at 8pm on Thursday 3rd March. A link will be distributed by SMS.

JOTTER APP - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The **School Jotter** app includes a **school calendar**. This can also be found on the **website**.

If you haven't already, search **School Jotter** in your phone's app store and then select Fir Ends School.