



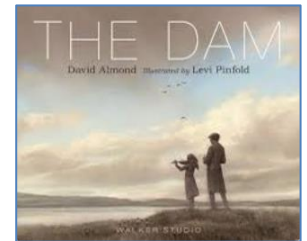
Happy New year 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to wish all of our families a very happy new year and welcome to Spring Term 2022. I hope everyone had an enjoyable break and it has been lovely to see our children happily returning to school this morning.

I am sure you will have all been following the latest Covid-19 guidance from the government over the holidays and will be aware of some of the challenges that will be facing us all in the next few weeks. In school, we will do all we can to, once again, balance the challenges of keeping everyone safe with making sure the school experiences for our children are as rich, varied and exciting as always.

We are very pleased to be able to be starting off the term with our **Take One Book** whole school project. We are exploring *The Dam* by local author, David Almond and each class will be using it as our inspiration during this week.



Covid Update Staffing

One of the difficulties we faced in school before Christmas and continue to face, is the impact of Covid absences on staffing in school. We will do all we can as a team to ensure that we minimise any disruption, but there may be some times when your child is not taught by their usual teacher. Wherever possible we will try to make sure the class has a school member of staff who is known to them and every effort will be made to ensure that the learning is not affected.

What happens if my child test positive for Covid?

Please always notify the school as soon as possible if your child has a positive LFD and/or PCR test. The 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days. Children may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and they do not have a high temperature, they may end the self-isolation after the second negative test result. **Please ensure you notify school of the results and your child can return to your school from day 8.**

Headteacher: **Matt Ward**

Deputy Headteacher: **Tom Jones**

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What should I do if my child is a close contact of someone with COVID-19

Children, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 by Track and Trace and/or live in the same household as someone with Covid-19, are asked to **take an LFD test every day for seven days** and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and do not need to take part in daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend school while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Masks and Face Coverings

Following government guidance school staff will be wearing masks when moving around school and in communal areas, but not when teaching. Children in Primary schools are not required to wear masks, but may do so if parents wish.

During this period of very high cases, we encourage parents dropping off and picking up at school to wear a face mask.

Thank you as always for your support and remember if you, your child or your family are self-isolating and need any support at all please contact us at school.

Matt Ward (Headteacher)