

Halwill Primary School
Newsletter No.13
Spring Term. 17th January 2022
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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

The first full week back has been busy and productive. The children have been 'Aiming High' in all areas of school life and I have been very impressed with how quickly they have settled back in to learning. Teachers have updated the Class Pages on the website with Spring Term information. Please take a look here: <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/children/class-pages/>

Children have adapted well to returning to Zoom assemblies. In our first assembly of term we talked about 'Building Relationships' and I gave the example of some Class 2 children, who I had seen at playtime, working collaboratively to make a bridge out of playground equipment. I was very impressed with the way they listened to each other and worked together. I am pleased to say that this is echoed throughout the school in any lesson I see.

Last week, was the first for certificates this term. We looked at the life of Sidney Poitier and how he was ground-breaking in being the first Black actor who won an Oscar at a time of Segregation in America. Well done to the children who responded with thoughtful and respectful comments.

We welcome Mrs Rachael O'Donnell to The Carey Federation Governing Body. Rachael is an Ashwater parent so joins as a Parent Governor. If you are interested in discussing the role of Parent Governor, please contact the office and I will be happy to speak to you.

We have a **Read, Write Inc. virtual meeting for parents this Wednesday 19th January at 4:30 pm.** Please do join in good numbers as it will be an opportunity to learn more about why Read, Write Inc. is structured as it is, what we do in school and how you can support your child at home. If you are in the middle of things and need to turn your camera off, we completely understand. A Zoom link will be shared on Class Dojo.

COVID Further Update



On Thursday 13 January the [Health Secretary announced](#) changes to isolation rules for people who have tested positive for COVID-19. In order that people who have had and recovered from the virus can get back to their normal lives as soon as possible, isolation time has been cut to 5 full days (from the date of their first positive test) for anyone who has recorded two consecutive daily negative lateral flow tests. This will help to reduce the disruption the virus causes in schools for both pupils and staff. But what will this mean in practice for children, families, schools and other education settings? Here we answer your questions.

My child has tested positive for COVID-19 – how long do they have to stay away from school/college for?

All people – including pupils, parents and teachers - have to isolate for a **minimum of five full days** after the day of a positive test before then going back to school if they have tested negative twice.

The first full day of isolation is considered to be the day following the positive test. Following the fifth full day of isolation – on the sixth day - it will be possible for people who have received two negative LFD tests on consecutive days to go back to school.

People who have tested positive can now take two LFD tests on day 5 and day 6, and if both are negative and they do not have a temperature, they can end their self-isolation on day 6 and return to their education setting immediately.

If either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest

In practice it means that **if a child or teacher tests positive on a Saturday, that would be considered day 0.**

They could then take tests on the morning of Thursday (day 5) and Friday (day 6). If they tested negative on both days and did not have a temperature they would be then able to return to school on the Friday.

What about if someone else in the house has tested positive? Can my child go to school/college?

Yes – and they should. They should continue going to school but test daily. If they test positive they should isolate (provided the person bringing them to school is COVID negative).

We also ask that you regularly test your child using an LFD test, whether or not they have symptoms. We have had clarification that you no longer need to wait 90 days before an LFD can be used after being positive for COVID. This rule has now changed due to the emergence of the Omicron variant. **Therefore, even if your child recently had COVID, you can use an LFD to test them.** If you are struggling to obtain LFD tests, please ask the school office and we can provide these.

Flu Immunisation Thursday 20th January 2022

Please see information about this on our website: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/2021-22-flu-nasal-spray-parent-links/>

Hot Dog Thursday - Change to Menu

Please note the change to the menu on Thursday 20th January. This is Spring Census Day for all schools so the number of school meals ordered by Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be used to calculate the funding we receive for Universal Free School Meals (i.e. for Class 1 and 2). Please encourage your child to order a lunch on Thursday because if we have low numbers, we will receive less funding so will need to divert valuable curriculum funding to subsidise the kitchen. Thank you for your support,

Wishing you all a good week ahead.

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher

Census Day special menu. Thursday 20th January

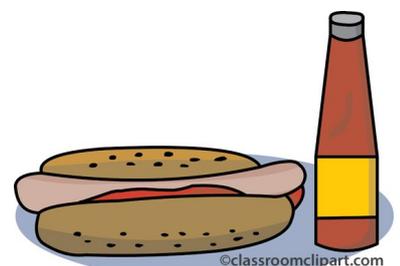


Hot dog or Vegetarian hot dog

Smiley faces, beans or peas.

Jacket potatoes available as usual.

Please order through Schoolmoney.



The Carey Qualities

Relationships by being Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective and Respectful



Each Thursday children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. Last week the following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.

For building Relationships	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
Emily—class 2 Rowan—class 4	Leo—class 1 Sidney—class 1 Evie—class 2 Bonnie—class 2 Matthew—class 4 James—class 4			Zeejay—class 3

Dates for your diary:

January 2022

19th Reading meeting for parents of children doing the Read, Write, Inc scheme. 4.30pm.
20th Flu vaccinations Years R to 6.

February

16th Reading meeting for parents of children in year 3 & above. 4.30pm.
21st to 25th Half term

March

28th Tempest Class photos

April

8th End of spring term
25th Start of summer term

May

2nd Bank holiday
30th May to 3rd June Half term

July

22nd End of summer term

September

1st Inset day
2nd Inset day
5th Pupils return to school

SIMS Parent

If you have not signed on to SIMS Parent, please do take a look. It is your way of ensuring we hold your most up to date contact information as well as your parental consent for day to day things in school



If you have not received your email invitation or are having issues, please email the office.