

# Moorside News - 14th January

Welcome to the first full newsletter of 2022. An especially big welcome to new families who joined us last week. Despite the ongoing high case numbers, there is a busy term of additional activities planned across school.

As I mentioned last week, wherever possible we will work hard to ensure that children are able to experience school life in as normal a way as possible. With that in mind, today our Y4 are at Ribchester taking part in a visit relating to their work about the Romans. In a couple of weeks, Y1 are due to visit Lancaster Castle as part of their new topic.

## Length of Covid Isolation

From Monday, the minimum length of time someone is required to self-isolate is being reduced from 7 days to 5 days. This means that on day 6, isolation can end provided that there have been two lateral flow tests showing negative results, one on day 5 and one on day 6. If the tests are still positive, then a person must continue to isolate for up to 10 days until the tests are clear for 2 days. Hopefully, this will mean that children will miss less time in school and staff absence will reduce.

## Covid Testing

Whilst we have seen an increase in cases amongst pupils and staff, the main increase being in Year 1 and 2, our cases are relatively low in relation to the size of our school. If there is a new case in your child's class you will receive one of 2 messages either informing you of a new case in the class or informing you your child is identified as a close contact.

Whilst the main symptoms of Covid continue to be a high temperature, new continuous dry cough and/or lack of taste or smell, which would need a PCR test, we have noticed that reported symptoms of headache and tummy ache have resulted in a positive result in many of the new cases in school. Therefore, we would advise, if your child has any of these symptoms to do a LFT.

## Pastoral Support Groups

We run many additional groups to cater for the different needs of the children. Some of those are pastoral support groups. Since the start of the new term, our rates of Covid-19 amongst staff have increased, especially this week. As a result, we have had to use staff who would normally run these groups to ensure that we can actually maintain and run all the classes. We apologise if your child has been unable to access their group and we hope for all groups to resume once we have enough staff again.

## Goodbye

Today we are saying 'goodbye' to Mrs Tinkler who is leaving after twelve years at Moorside. She is going to follow a different career path taking up a role in online marketing. Over the years, she has worked with many groups of children and supported a number of children on a one-to-one basis as

they have moved through the school. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her well in her new role.

## Diary Dates

### January 2022

Monday 24th 1H Trip - Walk to Lancaster Castle

Tuesday 25th 1PG Trip - Walk to Lancaster Castle

Wednesday 26th 1C Trip - Walk to Lancaster Castle

### February 2022

Friday 11th School Closes for half term **at 3.10pm**

Monday 21st School re-opens