

Family Update

28th January 2022



Updates

Hello to all our lovely families, we hope you are keeping safe and well. We understand that this is a challenging time for everyone: families; workplaces and schools and we will continue to prioritise keeping all classes open even though we are juggling extreme staffing shortages at present. We appreciate your patience and are optimistic that gradually the landscape will change for the better. Covid cases seem quite prevalent in all areas currently and we have had cases within school this week in most departments. The Local Authority and NHS Trust currently have not made plans to roll out the Covid vaccination programme for children aged 5 - 11yrs, I will continue to follow this up with them for our vulnerable children.

Our Covid guidance remains that anyone with symptoms must obtain a PCR test and any close contacts of cases should, if possible, take a lateral flow test every day to ensure they are not bringing the disease into school. If any families would like LFT tests to be sent home with their children, please let us know.

Amongst the fun learning taking place in school this week we have had Ash class making 'Neeps n Tatties' for Burns Night; Elm class reaching out to friends on the mats and using switches to create the sirens of Fire Engines and Police cars; Beech class creatively writing what each of their senses perceives and Willow class writing a new adventure story with author Fiona Miller, see below for details. Have a lovely weekend, From Your Leadership Team

Photos from the Week



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Executive Principal: Melsa Buxton

Head of School: Mel Newbury

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Kim Thomas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Mel Newbury & Helen Bowers

COVID phone for reports of a pupil's Covid symptoms or positive test 07957 309912

A Visit From Fiona Miller

The fabulous Fiona Miller visited Willow class again this week. Fiona runs 'Tots O'Clock' on YouTube, which is a brilliant story telling channel for children. During her visit, Fiona shared some stories with the class and also started a new adventure with them. Fiona is currently working on a new story and has asked Willow class to help her with it! Willow class loved sharing their story planners with Fiona that they created and can't wait to be a part of helping to create a real, published book.

A big thank you to the Friends of Saxon Hill for helping build this link.



Online Safety

Please be aware that some concerns about the online social streaming site 'Twitch'. Sites like 'Twitch' enables users to stream and play games online together. The site is recommended for people aged 13 and over but there is no way of stopping strangers talking to children who access these type of streaming sites.

Please see below links for more information and guidance:

Parents' guide: [Parents' Ultimate Guide to Twitch | Common Sense Media](#)

Top tips for Twitch: <https://tinyurl.com/2vtx9zrv>



Key Dates

4th February—Inset Day—School closed to pupils

10th February—Governors Finance and Resources Committee 1pm and Teaching and Learning Committee 2pm

14th February—Mid-year reports sent live to parents

16th February—Parents evening

21st—25th February—Half-Term

1st March—Virtual Transition Event for pupils in Year 9 upwards



Aiming High Activities

In last week's Family Update Newsletter, we mentioned some of the Aiming High opportunities taking place and their locations. Please see information below for further details:

Details of Aiming High activities taking place in March are now available on the Staffordshire Connects website at the link below:

[Aiming high - Search Results | Staffordshire Connects](#)

Activities are open to young people with a special educational need or disability and their families from Staffordshire.

1 free activity is available in March and free places can be booked from 1st - 11th February.

Additional activities can then be booked from 14th February onwards.

To book, please call 0300 111 8007 (Option 2, then Option 5).

February Aiming High activities:

Some places are also still available on our February activities. The activities include:

- Let Us Play (Painting Activity and Heart Cookies Activity)
- Staffordshire Wildlife – various nature based sessions across Staffordshire
- Sherratts Wood (Farm sessions and fun days – transport is available from the provider)

If you would like to take part in any February activities please call our booking team now on 0300 111 8007 (Option 2, then Option 5).

