



# Wookey Weekly News

## Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020



I have really enjoyed starting my day this week by greeting the children as they enter from the car park as a part of our new 'drop and go' system. The parade of happy faces has continued throughout the week, with only a very small number of children showing signs of 'second-week syndrome'.

We have moved celebration assemblies to Monday mornings and the first of these took place this week. Well done to Leo, Matthew, James, Adam, Arabella and Raf for being chosen first for their classes. It was also exciting in our assembly to share the news that Chestnut Class have been our most active class in terms of journeys to school this term so far. We will be awarding walking bus badges to the children who have been most active at the end of the month. We also shared the class totals for their daily mile activities so far - well done to Willow Class for being top of the table at the moment.

Finally, in our assembly we had the chance to practise the sign language for the song that we are going to perform at our upcoming Harvest Festival. I have added a video of this song to the children's Seesaw activities so that they can practice it at home.

Our after school sports clubs started again this week. It was lovely to see children of all ages supporting each other and working so hard in extremely hot conditions. I am not sure how many competitive fixtures will be taking place in the coming months, but I know that the children are looking forward to representing their school if they are given the opportunity.

Our older children have also had the chance to sample some of the produce from our school garden this week after they picked some superb looking parsnips. They all enjoyed the rostis that Mrs Davies cooked for them, and I can agree that they were delicious!

Lastly I need to let you about a subtle change that will be taking place in terms of our classroom organisation from Monday, which has been reflected in our updated risk assessment (available on our website). We will be keeping everything in place to ensure our class bubbles are kept separate during the school day, and our procedures for the start and end of the day will remain as they are, but in our classes we are finding it is impossible for the children to distance from each other so we will be reverting to a more traditional Wookey way of teaching and learning, rather than the formality that has been in place since September. This does not contravene the guidance from the Government and will help to make our classes seem more normal for the children.

## Flu Vaccinations

NHS Somerset are not sending out paper copies of their Flu Vaccination letters this year. You will find an electronic copy, which contains a link for a parent consent form, in your Seesaw feed. It will have been sent to you as a 'family announcement'. In Seesaw, once you have clicked on the attachment you will need to select 'view original' to access the link. We have also uploaded it to our website so it can also be accessed from [here](#).

### Coronavirus in children – symptoms and testing

(From Catherine Falconer – Somerset Public Health)

As we approach winter and more children are attending school and early years settings there is likely to be an increase in the number of children experiencing mild respiratory symptoms such as runny noses and colds. Children with these symptoms do not require self-isolation or testing for them or the wider family.

The three main symptoms of coronavirus in children are:

- a high temperature– this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough– this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste– this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If any child displays these symptoms then it is very important that they are asked to go home, self-isolate with their family and get a test. They cannot return until they receive a negative test.

We need to ensure that we can prioritise testing for people displaying at least one of these three symptoms listed above. More information is available here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/coronavirus-in-children/>



Our annual Harvest Festival will be taking place this year at 2pm on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Parents are warmly invited to attend remotely via Zoom – we will be sending out the details you need to join the service soon. As usual we will be asking for the children to bring in donations of non-perishable food which will be donated in a COVID-safe way to our local foodbank.

The lunch booking system on SCOPay is now open for the next 3 week block of lunch orders (28<sup>th</sup> September – 23<sup>rd</sup> October). Meal ordering will close on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September so please make sure your orders are completed by then.



As we are all acutely aware, one of the ways that COVID has impacted us as a school is that we have reduced contact with our parents at the moment. This is unfortunately unavoidable. In order to mitigate this, we will be sharing with each parent a short message on Seesaw over the next few weeks, just to let you know how your children are settling into the new academic year. We will also be offering Zoom meetings to parents between half term and Christmas if parents would like to discuss any concerns that they have. We would of course encourage you not to wait until then, and to contact your child's teacher on Seesaw as soon as possible should you have any concerns, questions or worries.

We currently have a vacancy on our Governing Body. If you are interested in finding out a bit more about what being a school governor entails then please drop me an email via the school inbox ([SCH.423@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:SCH.423@educ.somerset.gov.uk)). This vacancy does not have to be filled by a parent, so if you know any grandparents who might be interested please let them know.

### Safeguarding is everybody's business.

If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact: Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or by email at [childrens@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:childrens@somerset.gov.uk) or the contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care. In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999.