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14 January 2022

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Dear Parents

Term has started well and although we have had a few COVID-19 cases not as many as I expected. Many thanks to all of you who are testing yourselves and your children and continuing to follow the guidance.

This term our focus for Worship and learning is Hope, very appropriate, I feel with the current situation! We are all hoping that things will soon be returning to more normal and that we will be able to all join together in the not too distant future. I am attaching a sheet for you to share with your children at home to enable you to join this focus, should you wish to. We have also been talking to the children about our school motto 'Learn to love and Love to learn' with a focus on both loving themselves and focusing on self-care and loving their neighbour, all those around them!

We have had a number of cold mornings this week and I just want to remind you to take extra care on these days. We are aware that the car park and approaches to school can get very slippery and are not gritted, so you will need to take care. We grit what we can on school site to enable children to walk in safely, but again they need to be reminded to take it carefully.

COVID- 19 – A reminder that if your child is isolating school work can be found on our website on your child's class page.

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19 - From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

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If the result of either of their tests 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.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further [information on self-isolation for those with COVID-19](#) is available.

Car Park - A reminder to park safely, at times, it can get very busy, especially if there is an event in the Village Hall. You need to think about where you park, ensuring it is safe for you and for other users of the space. Be very careful when leaving or arriving of children and other pedestrians and please take real care to keep your children close to you. Remember to back into spaces, so that you leave forwards and can see if there is a child walking pass. Try to always be considerate of others. Don't panic if you can't park immediately, we will keep your children with us until you arrive. Safety comes first at all times.

Pushchair needed for Toy Box - If anyone has a pushchair that they no longer need, Toy Box are looking for one that they can use on Welly Walks. A toddler low feeding chair with tray would also be a useful donation. If you could donate either item, please let the office, Mrs Park or myself know.

Information Sessions at Huish - These are very valuable sessions and I would highly recommend attending them. We are really lucky to have access to such sessions via the CLP as we would not be able to put these on ourselves. It would be lovely to know that a number of you are accessing them. I know that parents who have attending them in the past have found them invaluable. I will certainly be attending the online safety one which was incredibly useful previously.

Behaviour Management Techniques

With Family Solutions Somerset

Monday, 24th January at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

A whistle stop tour of some parenting techniques and strategies to use with your children aged 2-18.

We will be looking at the following principles that underpin all areas of parenting (and relationships) whatever the age.

- Emotion Coaching, being able to label our emotions- CBT/Behaviour Curve
- Showing empathy not sympathy
- Attention – children will seek any kind of attention – good or bad
- Ignoring behaviours we want to see less of
- Specific praise... labelled
- Social Learning Theory – new behaviours can be learnt by observing and imitating others (bandura)
- Use of rewards – after the event (bribes come before), smart and cheap

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The session will be fully collaborative, and we will be open to conversations and listening to your own techniques which have been successful.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/9jR8M5hDZNnQnvTm8>

Growth Mindset

SCC Educational Psychologist

31st January 2022 at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

The beliefs children have about intelligence, effort, and struggle impact the choices they make about learning. Children with a fixed mindset believe that intelligence is fixed at birth and doesn't change with practice. They see school as a place where abilities are evaluated and they interpret mistakes as a sign that they lack talent.

This session will help you help your child/ren to develop a **growth mindset** believing that intelligence can be developed. These students see school as a place to develop their abilities and think of challenges as opportunities to grow.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/9cvon4GwrC3ChTaaA>

Dyslexia Awareness

With Mark Long, SCC Lead Advisory Teacher

Monday, 28th February 2022

Starting at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

Dyslexia is a learning difference that affects 1 in 10 people. Individuals with dyslexia often find it challenging to develop reading and spelling fluency and can also have difficulty with remembering verbal instructions and learning sequences such as the alphabet, days of the week and times table facts.

This session provides an introduction to dyslexia. It explains why children with dyslexia can find reading, spelling and writing so challenging and describes strategies that can be used to help children improve in these areas.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/ewtp83j8RhP53MLU7>

Online Safety & Social Media

With Amy Brittan, SCC Education Technology Advisor

14th March 2022 at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

New technologies inspire children to be creative, communicate and learn. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe?

This session will provide parents/guardians/carers with information to support their children to enjoy technology safely and responsibly. You will have the opportunity to think about what you want to do to protect your family and to equip them for their future.

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/Qt4Dxmbjb4KVME377>

Dates to remember:

Swimming lesson - Thursdays (Harrier Class) : Thursday 13th January to 24th March 2022
History Workshop (Cygnet Class) : Monday 17th January

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Rural Life Museum Visit (Cygnet Class)	:	Tuesday 1 st February
Inset Day	:	Friday 18 th February 2022
Half Term Holiday	:	Monday 21 st to Friday 25 th February 2022
Additional School Closure Day	:	Monday 6 th June 2022

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about your child or another please come and speak to myself. Safeguarding is everyone's business and cannot be ignored. You can always contact Somerset Direct (0300 123 2224) or the NSPCC yourself to share or discuss any Safeguarding concerns you have.

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds or Cheryl Park).

[NSPCC](#) [SOMERSETDIRECT](#)

Best wishes

Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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