



22nd January 2021

## **Testing of Benton Dene School Staff**

As from Monday our staff will be engaging in twice weekly lateral flow tests in a bid to stop the chain of transmission of the COVID-19 virus. This is in line with government guidance re: people who may have the virus but are asymptomatic. These tests will be carried out at home and are in addition to all the other measures we are taking to keep school a safe environment for all pupils and staff.

We will be notified within half an hour of the test being undertaken if a staff member is potentially positive for COVID-19; at this point I will need to contact all close contacts and ask them to self-isolate. The staff member will then have a further test, administered at a recognised testing site to confirm their results: at this point self isolation for close contacts will either be confirmed or they will be notified that they can stop isolating.

I appreciate that this will mean that I may need to contact you at short notice and that this will inevitably cause some inconvenience but I'm sure you will agree that it is important that we all take all measures to try and combat the spread of this disease.

## **A little bit of appreciation**

We thought it would be a lovely idea for everyone at Benton Dene School to show some appreciation for the hard work, commitment and support that both our Headteacher Mrs McAllister and Deputy Head Miss Banks provide each and every day to keep the school open and safe for both the children and staff to attend.

Each class made a beautiful card to say 'Thank You' and the staff did a collection and bought flowers, lots of chocolates, a homemade cake and some liquid refreshment. All our staff work extremely hard and we appreciate all the support we get from you too.



### Mrs McAllister's Message

*This week our 'classroom pause for thought' focused on EMPATHY. Empathy is about understanding and sharing someone else's feelings.*

*We've had some brilliant examples of this in school this week:*

*One of our boys working at home watched the power point and commented that if 'someone was sad, he'd find them a special blanket'. And another one of our boys realised that his friend was really upset because he'd lost his favourite ear muffs. The comment was, "Please don't cry, I can help you", he retraced where his friend had been and found the ear muffs. The child who had lost the ear muffs was relieved and the other child was so happy to have helped his friend.*

*In the very uncertain world that we are living in just now, the ability to show 'empathy and kindness' is a real asset. Well done to everyone who has done that in school and at home this week. We'd love to hear of more examples.*

*Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe.*



**Yellow 4  
having an amazing,  
fun filled time.**

**Mud  
glorious  
mud.**



# Class News

**Yell 3:** have enjoyed exploring our new role play area 'polar explorer'.

**Yell 4:** have been investigating materials in Science and continuing our story: 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have been practising our scary wolf voice .

**Green 5:** have had a visit from 'Thing 1' and 'Thing 2': what a mess they made!

**Green 6:** The children enjoyed making sounds using music software and websites

**Green 7:** have enjoyed listening to our new story: 'Peace at Last'.

**Green 8:** have enjoyed exploring different types of movement in PE and our movement breaks.



**Red 1:** Great making of potions in Red 1 this week as part of their T4W book 'Room on the Broom'

**Red 2:** have been using glass paint to make stained glass windows in RE.

**Red 4:** have been enjoying learning to dribble a hockey ball in PE and in science we have been building electrical circuits.

**Blue 6:** have been finding out about the religion Islam. We looked at pictures of a Mosque and found out where Mosques were in our area

**Blue 7:** have been learning about the Arctic in geography and enjoyed exploring objects frozen in ice

**Blue 8:** have been learning about hot and cold climates in their geography lessons.

**Blue 9:** T4W this term for Blue 9 is 'How to train your dragon'. We have watched the film and we are working our way through the chapters of the book. We have designed our own dragons and we are beginning to write our own stories based on the novel.

## Stars of the week

**Yellow 3:** Faith, Euan, **Yellow 4:** Liam, **Green 5:** Archie, **Green 6:** India

**Green 7:** Matilda, **Green 8:** Jake, **Red 1:** Taylor, **Red 2:** Jayden,

**Red 3:** Sam, **Red 4:** Charlie, **Blue 6:** Izabella **Blue 7:** Reilly, **Blue 8:** Kai

**Blue 9:** Sonny

## Achievements of the week



**Yellow 3:** Frankie, **Yellow 4:** Swayze, **Green 5:** Harry, Tommy,

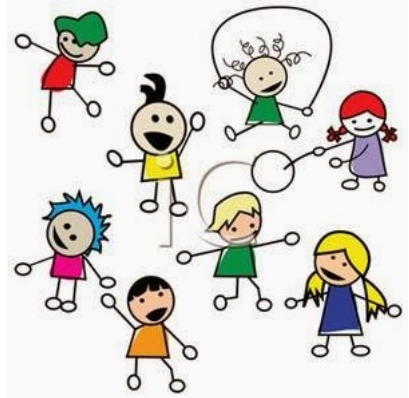
**Green 6:** Sonny, William, **Green 7:** Nina, **Green 8:** Alistair, **Red 1:** Karam,

**Red 2:** Theo, **Red 3:** Brandon, **Red 4:** Alex, Caleb, **Blue 5:** Christian,

**Blue 6:** Connor, **Blue 7:** Bradley, **Blue 8:** Jude, **Blue 9:** George.

## WANTED

**If you have any joggers, trousers, underwear, socks your child has outgrown we would really appreciate them in school please. (especially younger children)**



## P.E. at Benton Dene School

**Don't forget to upload your pictures to seesaw or tapestry.**

What shapes can you make with your body?

Why not have a look on 'youtube' at 'Go noodle' to see some great dance routines that you and your child can enjoy.



### **School Jotter** 4+

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Open the Mac App Store to buy and download apps.

Just a reminder that we post useful information on the school website and that there's a Parents/Carers section which has new information about Remote Learning as well as Home Learning on each class page.

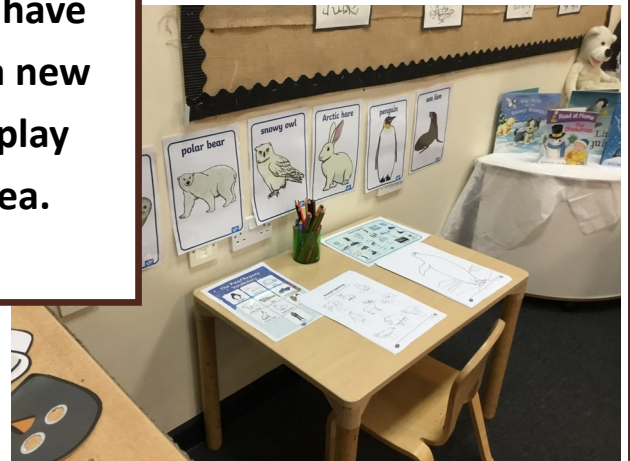
**Why not add the 'School Jotter' app to your phone. It will send you up to date information about school and useful links directly to your phone.**



**Some of our  
children enjoying  
the breakfast club.**



**Yellow 3 have  
created a new  
Winter play  
role area.**



**Counting and matching the  
correct number of objects**



**Green 6  
making  
sounds  
using music  
software  
and  
websites.**