

WESTGARTH WEEKLY



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Friday 7th January 2022

Dear Families,

Further National COVID-19 Guidance

You will be aware that, from Tuesday 11th January, national guidance has changed for anyone who tests positive on a lateral flow test and is asymptomatic. A confirmatory PCR test is no longer required. Instead, asymptomatic children would begin their isolation period as day zero when the positive LFD test was taken and could then take LFD tests on days 6 and 7; those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. A reminder that the first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both of these test results are negative, and there is no high temperature, self-isolation after the second negative test result can stop and children can return to school from day 7, if the negative tests were taken early on the morning of day 6 and 7, or day 8 if taken later in the day.

When a positive COVID-19 case is identified in a child's household, our local Public Health Team is continuing to advise that the child takes a PCR test and does not attend school until a negative PCR test result is received. An LFD test should then be taken every day for 7 days. Children should only attend school if the LFD test is negative.

If a child exhibits COVID symptoms, a PCR test should still be taken.

If in doubt, please ring the school office for advice and clarification.



Smart Watches

We have noticed some children returning to school this week wearing smart watches that are equipped with cameras and games. We ask that these devices are not brought into school for the same safeguarding reasons that we do not allow mobile phones in school. Thank you for your co-operation.

CAMHS workshops

Please find details for the 2022 parent and carer workshops on offer from CAMHS.

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Music to Our Ears!!

It has been so lovely hearing additional music sessions for children in KS2 this week. Mrs Norris, a specialist music teacher has started whole class lessons with years 3 and 5, and Y4 children are having whole class drumming lessons with Tees Valley Music Service. Music to our ears!

PD Day

A reminder that school is closed to the children on **Monday 17th January** for a PD Day focused upon our promotion of children's reading for pleasure.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Woodhead
Headteacher