

Applegarth Primary School Newsletter



7th January 2022

Welcome Back And a Happy New Year

It has been wonderful seeing our enthusiastic, well-rested pupils back in school (all keen to tell us what Santa brought them!). We are looking forward to the rest of the academic year and all of the exciting opportunities it will bring. We have letters waiting for Year 3 and 4 from our French partner school in Toulouse. Mrs Cross has been busy organising Geography visits for pupils right across the school and we have a range of extra-curricular activities on offer (including bushcraft this half term). We also have a new teacher in place to cover Mrs Burrell's maternity in Honeybees. Her name is Mrs Mitchell! We will call her Mrs M to avoid confusion.

I must touch on Covid-19 at this point. You'll all be aware of increasing rates of infection. There have been some minor changes to arrangements in school, but they mostly affect our working practices so things will look very similar for you as parents and carers. The main points that affect families are the changes to isolation periods and what to do in the case of close contact to a Covid-19 case:

- There is no need for primary age pupils (those in Year 6 and below) to regularly test, unless they have been identified as a contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 and are therefore advised to take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days. They should continue to attend school during this time.
- Individuals with a positive case may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

For the detailed information, please see the [Covid Secure Arrangements](#) on the Policies section of the school website.

Yesterday, the UK Health Security Agency announced that from 11th January **asymptomatic people in England who test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) on a lateral flow device (LFD) test no longer need to get a confirmatory PCR test.** Their isolation period can start immediately following their positive LFD test result. These individuals should still report their test results on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

This is a temporary measure while coronavirus rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of coronavirus are high, the government has said that the vast majority of people with positive LFD test results can be confident that they have coronavirus

LFD tests should only be taken by people who do not have coronavirus symptoms. Anyone who develops has symptoms should self-isolate and take a PCR test. They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative LFD test – these rules have not changed.

Tesco Community Grant

Please support Applegarth's Greenhouse Project if you are shopping in Tesco over the next few months. We plan to build a poly-tunnel on the field to extend our growing season and give our pupils further opportunities to learn about food production, cooking and nutrition. We also plan to donate any surplus produce to charities to feed people in need.

Event	Class or Phase	Venue	Date(s)/Time(s)
PTA Meeting	Parents/Carers	Applegarth Primary School (TBC)	Monday 24 th January 6:00pm
Multiskills	Year 3 and 4 (team will be informed)	TBC	Wednesday 26 th January 10:00am
Judo Taster Session	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Thursday 27 th January
Rachel McKenzie (Boxer) Visiting	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Thursday 3 rd February
Number Day (Non Uniform)	Whole School	Applegarth Primary School	Friday 4 th February



@ApplegarthPrim

Pictures of the new wildlife area are on there! Thank you PTA 😊



WHATSAPP

16+
in UK & EU;
12+ rest of
world.

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, and making voice and video calls. The app offers end-to-end encryption, meaning messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient(s). Not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 reportedly caused millions of users to leave the app. But the new policy was widely misinterpreted: it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Report Potential Scams

Advise your child not to engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report that number as spam. They can also report a contact or a group as spam by tapping on the contact or group name to open their profile and scrolling down to 'report spam'.

Create a Safe Profile

Even though someone would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra precaution it's worth altering your young one's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody'. Choosing one of the latter two means their profile is protected.

Use Location Features Sparingly

If your child needs to use 'live location' to show you or their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives 'live location' options of 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can manually choose to stop sharing their position at any time.

Fact-Check Messages

You can now fact-check messages that have been forwarded at least five times in WhatsApp, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was accurate or not: it's a good way to encourage young people to question things they see online.

Explain about Blocking

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list - they would also need to be deleted from the device's address book. The option to block someone is on their contact info screen.

Leave a Group

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they no longer want to be part of, show them how to use the group's settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

Delete Accidental Messages

If your child has posted a message in the wrong chat or sent a message that they immediately regret, they can delete it. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone'. WhatsApp allows seven minutes to delete a message after it's sent - but it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

NSPCC

Number

Day



Friday 4th February

Dress up for Digits

Fancy dress inspired by all things maths or simply wear an item of clothing with a number on it. Donations welcome for the NSPCC.



*Supported by



*Number Day is supported by Man AHL and Oxford University Press, led by NSPCC.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

NORTHERN



SAINTS

Youth Fridays

All Saints Church

5pm – 6.30pm

School Years 6 -9

Meet every 2 weeks

(use side door)

FUN, FAITH, FOOD

FRIENDS

£1

14th & 28th Jan, 11th & 25th Feb,
11th & 25th Mar