



26th March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Mrs Takashima...

Yesterday we shared the sad news with you that Mrs Takashima has decided to retire at the end of the summer term. In the 12 years that Mrs Takashima has worked at West Kirby Primary School, she has demonstrated commitment, dedication and compassion for her role at our school. I am sure that her legacy will live on at West Kirby Primary School for many years to come. We hope that Mrs Takashima will be able to return to us at some point during the summer term so that we can create some final lasting memories at West Kirby Primary School for her.

Mrs Smith...

I would also like to share with you that Mrs Smith, our EYFS lead, will also be retiring at the end of the summer term (July 2021). Mrs Smith has been at West Kirby Primary School for 19 years and for many of you she was possibly the first member of staff you got to know when your child started school. As well as leading EYFS, Mrs Smith has also been our SEND lead for a number of years. Within this role, she has worked incredibly hard to ensure that children receive the support they need. We are sure you will join us in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Miss Trenholm...

Miss Trenholm has been working as a Teaching Assistant in Class 5 since September; she will finish with us today as she is expecting her first baby in the summer term. We look forward to hearing the exciting news about the arrival of her baby boy.

Track and Trace...

Schools continue to play an important role in contact tracing and the national effort to limit the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Contact tracing support is a key part of the test and trace process and schools hold the data about close contacts and pupil contact details. Therefore, schools are being asked to continue with contact tracing over Easter, similar to the arrangements that were in place over other recent school holidays.

Guidance from the Department for Education states that if a pupil or staff member tests positive for Covid-19 having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation. This is because the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

Therefore, as school closes on Friday 26th March we are asking that you make contact with us if your child develops symptoms between finishing school on Friday 26th March and Sunday 28th March. If this is the case, we will need to notify their close contacts if the Covid-19 test result comes back positive. Please contact the school office email to inform us of this, we will be checking this email daily up to 1st April.

schooloffice@westkirby-primary.wirral.sch.uk

If your child develops symptoms **after Sunday 28th March, we do not** need to be contacted and you should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. If your child needs to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case during the holidays, we do not need to be informed about this until the first day of the summer term, which is Monday 12th April. Thank You.

Easter Bunny Hop...

Thank you to Mrs Burrows and Mr O'Rourke who organised the Easter Bunny Hop yesterday. The children have had fun in their classes making their eggs, and it was great to see the eggs being part of the Easter Bunny Hop. Every egg was unique, and the children were very proud of them.

Recovery Curriculum...

The children have settled back into school really well over the last three weeks, and we are really proud of them. After such a long time away from school for so many, the children have adjusted back into daily routines and shown a positive attitude towards learning. After the Easter break, we will continue to address parts of the curriculum that need to be revisited, ensuring that we are preparing the children as best as we can ready for the transition into the next year group. Please continue to support your children by learning tricky words, using their phonics keyrings, developing recall and speed of times tables, reading daily, completing Mathematics tasks and accessing Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots.

End of Spring Term...

The Spring Term of 2021 is one that many of us will remember for some time. School was due to reopen on January 5th - then everything suddenly changed! The transition to Remote Learning was put into place and this became the norm for a number of weeks. It has been great to have the children back in school for the last three weeks, and we hope this will continue until the end of the summer term. As school closes today for the two-week Easter Break, I would just like to thank you for your understanding and support during this challenging term. I would also like to thank all of our staff for their hard work, flexibility and dedication that they have shown. In addition, our Governors have also been working hard to support our school in the background – thank you.

Restrictions...

Further restrictions are scheduled to be lifted from Monday 29th March, and if this goes ahead, outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either 6 people (the Rule of 6) or 2 households will be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside. Hopefully, this may allow you to reunite with some friends and family.

Playtime...

We are very aware that for many children it has been really difficult not being able to mix with children who are not in their class. After Easter, we are adjusting our morning playtime organisation so that the bubbles can mix outside. This will mean the three classes within each phase will be able to mix e.g. all of Year 3 and Year 4 will be able to have morning play together. We will continue to follow procedures if we are made aware of any positive Covid cases within a class bubble. It is hoped that reuniting the children with other friends will bring about many positive benefits and smiles.

School Finish Times...

Just a reminder that the timings for the end of the school day will be slightly different from Monday 12th April, all phases will finish school 15 minutes later.

Staggered Start and Finish Times from Monday 12th April

Year Groups	Start Time Remaining the same	Finish Time 15 minutes later
Year 5 and Year 6	8:30 am	2:45 pm
Year 3 and Year 4	8:45 am	3:00 pm
Year 1 and Year 2	9:00 am	3:15 pm
F1 & F2	9:15 am	3:30 pm

Dates...

Friday 26th March – School Closes for the Easter Break

Monday 12th April – School Reopens for the Summer Term

Tuesday 20th April – Class Photographs

Monday 3rd May – School Closed: May Bank Holiday

Tuesday 4th May and **Thursday 6th May** – Parents Evening

Happy Easter, have a well-deserved break.

Mrs Bailey
Acting Headteacher