

Newchurch Community Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

21st November 2020

Dear parent/carer,

As you know, our partnership with parents and families is very important to us and it is with this in mind that we feel the need to be open and transparent with you. You may be aware that on Thursday we needed to ask Year 1 and Year 2 pupils, and any staff in close contact, to work remotely until 2nd December. This includes all staff who work in those classes, and due to the age of the children and their ability to socially distance, it has meant that Mrs Dixon and Mrs Storey (who cover PPA in the classes) have also needed to isolate. This leaves us with skeleton staffing in school.

Nobody is to blame for this; it is just the way that schools are having to work during these challenging times and we are ever so grateful for the understanding and compassion we have seen from all our families and the resilience our Newchurch robins have shown.

Unfortunately, this afternoon, we have been notified by Mrs Conreen that she needs to isolate as a member of her family has tested positive for COVID-19. Of course, this means that she will not be available to teach the Year 4 children face to face until the period of isolation comes to an end – Friday 4th December, which means she will be back in school on Monday 7th December. Please do not be alarmed, your children are not in any danger and there is no need to close the class 'nest' and ask you to work remotely.

We have considered a number of options since being informed by Mrs Conreen and feel that we have a plan which ensures consistency in terms of the adults working with the children and the continuity of their routines and learning.

Therefore until Mrs Conreen is able to return, the children will be taught by Mrs Narraway, Mrs Mowbray and Miss Ingham. Mrs Mowbray teaches the children on a Monday usually and knows how we work at Newchurch and also understands and adheres strictly to the COVID risk assessment we have in place.

As you can appreciate, these are very unprecedented times which require us to think outside the box. Therefore, we are going to trial a hybrid of virtual teaching by Mrs Conreen on some days and have



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Miss Ingham in class to support the children. Rather than steam ahead into this, we will trial it on Friday to see how it works and the impact on the children's learning.

So you are able to prepare your child each day, next week will run as follows:

Monday 23 rd November	Mrs Mowbray
Tuesday 24 th November	Mrs Narraway
Wednesday 25 th November	Mrs Narraway
Thursday 26 th November	Mrs Mowbray
Friday 27 th November	Mrs Conreen (virtual) and Miss Ingham (in school)

If the virtual teaching works, then we will continue with it in the second week of Mrs Conreen's isolation. If we feel that the children's learning is compromised too much by the virtual teaching, we will put into place the following schedule:

Monday 30 th November	Mrs Mowbray
Tuesday 1 st December	Mrs Narraway in the morning and Mrs Conreen (virtual) and Miss Ingham (in school) in the afternoon
Wednesday 2 nd December	Mrs Storey
Thursday 3 rd December	Mrs Storey
Friday 4 th December	Mrs Storey

Mrs Conreen will read the class novel to the children at the end of each day so she is able to keep contact with them and continue the text they are reading.

We hope you can see that we have really considered the well-being of your children and the commitment to the continuation of their learning. We are living in unprecedented times and we are expecting situations like this to become more and more common. However, we can assure you that we will always do what is best for the children.

If you do have any concerns, please contact us directly on the head's email:
newchurch_primary_head@warrington.gov.uk

With kindest regards,

Mrs Jayne Narraway
 Head Teacher

Mrs Rachel Burns
 Chair of Governors



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