



## Tonwell St Mary's CE (VC) Primary School

Ware Road, Tonwell, Herts, SG12 0HN

Tel: 01920 462894 Fax: 01920 469606

E-mail: [admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman



*'Knowing each child, growing each child, in God's love'*

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear all,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school next week. There will be health and safety measures similar to autumn term in place, however there are some key changes. Please see the information below.

### **Calculations Policy for Parents**

Miss Nicolaou is our school's maths subject leader and has updated our calculations policy. We have had some parents enquire about our approaches to teaching written methods in school and have now added the calculations policy to our website. It can be found in the 'Parents' section under 'Policies'. We hope you find this helpful.

### **Ware Skillman Charity**

One of our school governors is a trustee for the Ware Skillman Charity, which is able to help Ware families who might need extra support with resources such as school uniform. To find out more information or to obtain a grant application form please email the secretary:

[mjp\\_franklin@btinternet.com](mailto:mjp_franklin@btinternet.com) or telephone 01920 466622

### **Cross Country Lessons**

Years 1-6 will be doing some cross country running in their PE lessons on Monday afternoons for the first three weeks back at school. This will involve use of the playing field opposite the school in the village. This activity will be fully risk assessed.

### **FULL RETURN TO SCHOOL**

#### **Full School Return**

We expect that almost all children will be able to attend full time. If you've received clinical or public health advice that your children should still remain at home, please let us know. The attendance policy will be back in place from 8<sup>th</sup> March and the government requires schools to remind parents that attendance is mandatory. If you have concerns regarding this, then please speak to us.

#### **Rapid Lateral Flow Testing for Households with School Age Children**

About 1 in 3 people with coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the virus spreading and protect each other. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease we all need to play our part to help protect each other. School staff have been using rapid lateral flow testing twice per week at home since the start of term and will continue to do so. The government are also offering free home tests to families of school age children. We would strongly advise you to take up this offer. You have the choice to get tested at a local test site, by collecting a home test kit from a test site or by ordering a home test kit online. **You can collect tests from Hertford County Hall car park between 1-7pm daily. You do not need an appointment or ID, just turn up.** Alternatively, you can order your tests at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>



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### Bubble Groups

Each class will form a bubble group and we will minimise interaction between bubbles as much as possible. All staff will be able to move between bubbles and some groups of children. Break times will be staggered and bubble groups will be separated as much as possible at lunch time. Hand sanitising/handwashing will continue to be timetabled and reinforced with all bubbles on a daily schedule.

### Drop off and Pick up

Drop off and pick up will be staggered to encourage social distancing. Please adhere to the timings set out below:

	Drop off	Pick up
Ash and Pine Class (N-Y3)	8.45am	3.10pm
Oak Class (Y4-6)	8.50am	3.15pm

**Staff members will be wearing face coverings and we strongly advise parents to wear them**

**providing they are able to.** Once your child has been dropped off/picked up, please leave promptly. Parents should not pass the sprayed yellow line outside the purple gates or enter the school building or site unless in an emergency. Please do not wait by the purple gates until your child's allotted time slot (unless you are dropping off a younger sibling).

**Punctuality is always important but even more so now.** If your child is late, this impacts on their learning time but also on the planned logistics of staggered starts and puts others at risk. If you are unavoidably late e.g. medical appointment then you must report to the office by phoning the school number and a member of staff will take your child into school.

### School Uniform and Equipment

School uniform will be expected to be worn when the school re-opens in September. Children should only bring essential items and this could be in their book bag or small rucksack.

**On PE days, children should come to school wearing their PE kit.** PE kits should not be sent into school separately. See the timetable below so you know your child's scheduled PE days. As we cannot give out spare PE kits, if your child does not wear their PE kit to school, they will be required to take part in the PE lesson in their uniform.

Ash Class	PE: Mondays
Pine Class	PE: Mondays and Thursdays
Oak Class	PE: Mondays and Thursdays

Reading books will be able to be taken home along with the reading diary for parents to keep a record of reading at home. We will be issuing sets of books, which should only be returned on a Monday with the reading diary. This will allow us to 'quarantine' each set of books before reissuing them to another child and prevent contamination. Children will take part in guided reading and 1:1 reading sessions in school as usual, but these books will remain in school.



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### Communication

Teachers are still unable to meet face-to-face with parents. All communication will need to be through the normal channels e.g. a phone call, an email. The school office remains closed for face-to-face interactions unless there is an emergency. Any letters that parents want to hand in should be dropped in the post box by the purple gates or sent in with your child. I will be running half termly parent forum meetings via Microsoft Teams and you can find dates for these below.

### Wraparound Care

Wraparound will be open every day for the usual hours from 8<sup>th</sup> March. Please book and pay for your child's place in advance as we cannot accept cash payments. Parents will need to drop off and pick up from the side door and will not be able to enter the school building at any time. Please be considerate of other parents and ensure there is only one adult dropping off at a time as the entrance is very narrow.

### Symptoms

If your child displays any symptoms of COVID-19 at home, do NOT send your child into school. They must be tested, which can be booked here: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-acoronavirus-test>

If your child displays any symptoms at school, you will be called and be required to collect your child immediately. They will be kept isolated from others and must be taken for a test. The rest of the bubble will remain in school unless the unwell child tests positive. If a child tests positive, the whole bubble will need to self-isolate in line with government guidelines.

### Pastoral Support

We are aware that the lockdown has been a difficult time for some children. Please let us know if you think they might need extra support when returning to school, such as if they feel anxious about coming back.

As you are aware, guidance is changing regularly and any current information is always subject to change. We will continue to communicate with you regularly through newsletters and Parentmail to keep you updated.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received from you and look forward to having all of the children back in school.

Kind regards,

*Mrs Bridgman*

### Key Dates:

Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	7.00pm Parent Forum via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Years 1-6 Wood Green Animal Shelter Virtual Sessions in school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Specialist music teacher sessions in school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm SEND Coffee Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> /Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Years 4-6 K'nex Challenge for Design and Technology
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief Crazy Hair/Bring a Joke to Share



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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

1.15pm End of Term

INSET DAY

Children return to school

1.15pm End of Term