



## Friday Flyer – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Dear Parent,

Thank you all for your continued support over the past term. Despite the obvious disruption of the virus we have continued on and the pupils are achieving great things. We've recently had a peer review with senior leaders from [Cheshire Academies Trust: Welcome to Cheshire Academies Trust](#) and external partners observing the fabulous teaching and learning at Kelsall. The final report reflected things that we do well and, as always, things that we want to improve on. Here is a small selection of the key successes raised by the review team;

*'Leaders care very much about the school. They have been effective through self-review in identifying strengths and areas for development. The principal and senior leadership team are fully committed to achieving the best for the pupils of Kelsall. The school has been pro-active in identifying funding to develop the school buildings, including the impressive external provision for Early Years (with further improvements being developed even during this visit).'*

*'On arriving, the first impressions of the school are excellent. The entrance foyer, with its arresting Mandela sculpture and associated artwork, sets the tone for a similar positive impact across the school. Display is consistently impressive around the whole building; the artwork is of exceptional quality. It has a most significant effect not only as a visual experience but also as a sense of integrity in purpose. Classroom environments are consistently welcoming and conducive to learning, enhanced by effective learning walls themselves.'*

*'Teachers are professional and committed to doing their best. Some teaching seen was of very high quality.'*

*'Teachers were confident and displayed competent subject knowledge. They utilised effective questioning techniques which in turn elicited thoughtful responses from the children. Relationships between teachers and pupils are excellent. Pupils work well together, often collaborating effectively in their learning.'*

*'There are lots of enthusiastic writers! Children enjoy writing and show pride in it. They were keen to talk about their English learning.'*

### Routines

Thanks for your support with routines at drop off and pick up. Can I ask that during these last few weeks of term, **anyone on the school playground wears a mask**, unless exempt. There have been fewer cases in our school community but other settings locally are seeing a steep rise. Please continue to use the **one-way** system and avoid coming in through the big staff car park entrance. It is much safer to enter through the pedestrian gate. Lastly, please ensure your child(ren) are with you at pick up – the M.U.G.A or Reception play equipment is **NOT** to be used.

### Covid 19 Update

Close contacts in schools are now identified by [NHS Test and Trace](#) and education settings are not expected to undertake contact tracing.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case or their parent to identify close contacts.

Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. You may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts, as currently happens in managing other infectious diseases.

All individuals who have been identified as a close contact of a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, irrespective of vaccination status and age, will be contacted directly and required to self-isolate immediately and asked to book a [PCR test](#). They will be informed by the local health protection team or NHS Test and Trace if they fall into this category and provided details about self-isolation.

Further actions for educational settings may be advised by a local Incident Management Team (IMT) investigating a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

For everyone else, isolation rules are unchanged. Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a [PCR test](#). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 who is not a suspected or confirmed case of the Omicron variant, should continue to attend school as normal.

## Clubs

A huge thanks to all staff members who have run clubs this term. This week is the last week of clubs. They will start back again (no need to re-book) on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January**. Nature club in action below!



## Reception 2022 - Applications

The closing date to apply for Reception places for our school is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. Click on the link below to set up an account to apply. Late applications will not be considered unless there are substantial mitigating circumstances.

[Parent Portal: Home \(servelec-synergy.com\)](http://servelec-synergy.com)

## Christmas Cards

Our Christmas post box is now out and ready to receive cards for those that wish to send them. Please ensure that the recipient's **name and year group** is clearly marked on the front. Y6 Elves will sort and distribute the cards – 48 hours will be left between deliveries.









## Chester Zoo

Y6 enjoyed a visit to Chester Zoo this week. Lining in with their Pathways to Write book 'Can we Save a Tiger' the class had a chance to explore the zoo and worked with the educational conservation team at the Zoo to find out about the plight of Sumatran Tigers. They worked on finding solutions to the many problems that locals have with Tigers and used a stop motion animation app on ipads to make their own animations, sharing solutions they had found. Thanks to Mr Ward for organising and to Mrs Lappin and Mrs Harris for supporting the visit.



## Saplings Outdoor area

The outdoor area for our Saplings class in Nursery should be ready to use for the New Year! The children have loved seeing the area develop through their new doors and even got to sit on the diggers!! Thanks to all @Pentagon for their hard work in all weathers on this project.



## SHARESHOP

Last year Miss Cadwallader organised a collection of items for the Share Shop in Chester to support homelessness and refugees. This year, more than any other, your support is needed. Please look out for the PING message from Miss Cadwallader. I will be taking the school's collection to the shop in Chester at the end of the term. Thanks in advance for your generosity.



School closes for the Christmas break on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December and Re-opens for pupils on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

## Stay Safe

Mr Wearing, Mrs Hook and the Kelsall TEAM