

This week we welcomed our Reception and Nursery children to school. It was wonderful to see them excitedly going into class on Monday morning with their new uniforms and smart hair dos. For some families it is the first time they are joining our school community and we warmly welcome you to our school family.

The children in the main school have been an absolute credit to their families and we can honestly say that everyone has settled into new routines and learning brilliantly. Last week's news of a positive test result for one child in Year 5 was unsettling for all involved, but I would personally like to thank parents for all the understanding and kindness you have shown as we navigate these new challenges together.

Please, if you have questions, ask them of us. Myself and other members of staff are always available on the school gates and welcome any opportunity to talk through your concerns or questions, however small. We are very proud of our robust protective measures and the brilliant education that we are working so hard to provide.

Below are some reminders for parents as we understand there is a lot of new information for everyone to take in. We hope you find these helpful...

Parent Guide to Testing and Self-Isolation

If your child is symptomatic:

If your child has a persistent cough, a high temperature or has lost their sense of taste and smell then you must book a test and your household (including siblings) stay at home until you have the results. Once you have the results, let the school know.

If your child's bubble is sent home to self-isolate:

Your child must self-isolate for 14 days. This means they must stay at home and not go out. Symptoms may appear up to 14 days after contact with an infected person. As long as the child who is sent home to self-isolate does not have symptoms of Coronavirus, the rest of the family, including siblings, do not have to self-isolate.

If you need to book a test:

As of today, we understand that the Market Square testing site is not a drop in and requires an appointment. You will need to phone the **NHS Covid helpline 119** to book a test.

Children who are not symptomatic will not be tested. A test is only accurate at the time of testing and is not reliable if the person has no symptoms.

If your child has a test, please keep us informed and share the results with the office staff so that we can support you and respond quickly if needed.

Your support is vital and very much appreciated.

Mrs Williams (Headteacher)

Monday 14th September 2020

head@blackthornprimary.net