

The Summerbank Sentinel

November 2020

An update for everyone on what's been happening in school and what comes next...

Dear All

Many thanks for following the guidance we have put in place since the National Lockdown started in the first week back after half term. The wearing of masks and changes to drop off and pick-up have increased the level of safety we can maintain on the school site and this is appreciated. Could I also remind families to only send one adult at drop off time to help us reduce the number of people on site. I will continue to keep safety at the heart of decisions and make further improvements where possible.

Thank you

Miss Pearson



CHILDREN IN NEED CHARITY

Last Friday we held a non-uniform day to raise money for Children in Need. It was really well supported by families and I am proud to say we raised a total of £382. Thank you all for your contributions the children enjoyed a great day too.

YOUR HELP NEEDED!

It will soon be December and we still intend to run our school raffle. If any of you working in local businesses are able to offer prizes for our raffle it would be greatly appreciated. Perhaps you have one of our local takeaways and could donate a voucher or work in a garage and could offer a free MOT. If you think you might be able to donate something like this I would be very grateful, please contact the office 01782 233611 office@summerbank.co.uk

UPDATE ON CASES ACROSS THE CITY AND NEW COMMUNITY TESTING

Coronavirus cases continue to rise. The seven-day figure is now reaching 558 cases per 100,000 population. This continues to be much higher than West Midlands and England averages. Cases are widespread across the city.

If you or your child have the slightest symptoms, however mild, please get a test. There is plenty of capacity. Stoke have organised additional testing for those with milder symptoms, the information for booking these is below.

Milder symptoms include:

- Headaches
- Aches and pains
- Feeling very tired for no good reason
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Sometimes 'tummy ache' in children

Community testing is available this week at the [Wallace Sports and Education Centre, Abbey Hulton](#) and [Dimensions Leisure Centre in Burslem](#) and those who don't have one of the three main symptoms but are feeling unwell can book a test directly.

I have put a link for this on the [school website](#) www.summerbank.co.uk Go to **Parents** then **Covid-19**

National testing sites remain in Stoke-on-Trent at Stoke City FC South Car Park, Synectics Solutions Car Park in Burslem and Fenton Manor Car Park. Bookings can be made via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus, through the link on the school website or ringing 119, where help is available in other languages.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

In September we reduced our cooked school dinner offer to only providing meals to children who qualify for Free School Meals, Universal Free School or are in Nursery. This was to support putting Covid-19 safety measures in place and reduce movement/mixing in the building. Thank you to parents of children who normally have school dinners for providing them with packed lunches, we do review this decision regularly but do not yet feel able to return to normal service. I will keep you informed. We will however be offering the chance for everyone to join in with Christmas lunch on the 16th December. A letter will come out nearer the time.

As a school we promote healthy eating and encourage our children to bring in a substantial and balanced lunch. A great lunch may include foods such as a sandwich or wrap with a healthy filling, pasta or rice, pieces of fruit or vegetable sticks, a yoghurt, maybe even some crackers and cheese – it is important for the children to have a wholesome lunch in order to keep their energy and concentration levels high throughout the school day.



The NHS – Change For Life website has some great examples of healthy lunches and also has a “build your own” tool to help you and your child identify some of the foods they might enjoy bringing to school in their lunchbox.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>



A LETTER FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Dear Parent/ Carer

First of all, my thanks for supporting your child’s attendance at school and their continued learning during these exceptionally difficult times.

Staffordshire HAS high levels of Covid cases, mostly due to household transmission. There has also been an increase of hospital admissions across the county.

The Police Force have received 483 reports of Covid breaches in the last week (4 – 11 November) with the majority of these being house parties and gatherings (mixing of households). The peak was Saturday 7 November with 139 incidents.

Police Officers are urging us all to comply with the revised measures to ensure the safety and well-being of our friends and family, and also to ensure that schools can continue to operate.

Across the Societas Trust we have had a rise in cases across our settings due to household transmission, which has resulted in a number of pupil bubbles being closed to prevent any further spread of the infection.

I want to reassure you that we continue to do everything we can to keep everyone as safe as possible in each of our settings. Learning is continuing both in our schools and remotely.

Should we reach a point at any of our settings where staffing levels reach a critical point where we can no longer maintain the safety of everyone on site, then we may have to take additional temporary measures. These may include either a full or partial closure of a particular setting, or a reduced teaching timetable. Should there be a need to introduce any such measures, you will of course be given good notice.

I am certain that if we all work together and abide by the national restrictions in place, we can avoid the need for any such additional measures.

Yours sincerely

Jon Lovatt

COVID REPORTING LINE

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 over a weekend then please let the school know straight away by calling 07398 342326. Please leave a message with the child’s name, class and date they developed symptoms. Many thanks