



12th February 2021

PARENT BULLETIN

This bulletin will allow us to give updates for parents all in one place. The links will take you to relevant updates/letters for your child's year group or to websites to locate information which you might find useful.

Covid-19 – Arrangements for Half Term

Please read these instructions carefully:

If your child develops symptoms any time before 4pm on Sunday 14th February (48 hours after last attending school – for children attending after school care on 12th February this will be 6pm) and you have been advised to take them for a test, you should report this to our dedicated email address covid@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk as soon as possible.

Once you have received the result of the test please report the outcome via the same email address as soon as possible, even if the result is negative. You must report any positive test results in order that we can identify close contacts of any pupils testing positive for Covid-19 as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

It would be most helpful if you can give us the following details in the email:

- Full name of your child and the year group they are in.
- The date and time they first developed symptoms and the nature of the symptoms shown.
- Whether your child attends before or after school care, and on which days in the last week of term.
- The date and time that the test was taken, the result of the test (when known) and the date and time that the result was received.
- A contact telephone number so that we can speak to you about any queries we have.

The below information helps us to identify close contacts:

- The period that needs to be considered for close contacts is the 48 hours prior to symptoms starting or 48 hours prior to a positive test if pupils are asymptomatic.
- A close contact would be anyone who has been within 2m for more than 15 minutes or anyone who has been within 1m (face to face) for more than one minute.

We will email the parents / carers of all close contacts with details of any instructions to self-isolate. You must therefore ensure that the email address we have for you is monitored at least once daily.

This will be a standard letter containing Public Health England guidance. If you have any queries about the content of the letter than you should direct them to the regional public health team (West Midlands East). Contact details are [here](#). We will check the contact email between the hours of 3pm to 4pm each day and we complete a final check at 4pm on Thursday 18th February.

Thrive

Mrs Davies (our Thrive practitioner) has added additional resources to the new Thrive page of our website. You can find this [here](#).

Commonwealth Games Survey

The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games (28 July to 8 August 2022) is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase the West Midlands on the global stage. With only 18 months to go, Solihull Council is researching what activities and events might be delivered in association with the Commonwealth Games.

These short surveys – which should take 5-10 minutes to complete – will contribute to that research. There are two versions, one for children and young people and one for adults. The surveys will close at 12 noon on 17 February, so please participate and share before then.

- [2022 Commonwealth Games - children and young people survey link](#)
- [2022 Commonwealth Games - resident and stakeholder survey \[link\]](#)

Staff Contact via Teams

May we politely remind you that the chat function of Teams should be used by pupils to contact their teachers if they are unsure of their work or have a question to ask. Where possible, we would encourage this contact to take place during 'office hours'. Staff should not be contacted by parents using this function. All communication with teachers must please be directed through the school office as per the TGPASJ Communication Protocol which can be found [here](#).

During half term, we would like our staff to have a well-deserved rest and so, in the interest of staff wellbeing, ask that pupils do not use Teams to contact any members of staff. Any messages that are sent will be not be answered during the half term break.

Parent Governor Election

We have received eight nominations relating to the election of Parent Governors. A notice of poll, details of candidates and details how to vote have been sent out by email. Voting commenced at 12 noon today and closes at 12 noon on Tuesday 23rd February. The results and record of votes cast will be published after 23rd February. We are so pleased that so many of our parents are interested in taking on this important role and would like to take this opportunity to thank all eight candidates for putting themselves forward.

Baby News!

We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Mistry gave birth to a baby boy on 1st February, weighing 7lbs 5oz. Both mum and baby are doing well. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Mistry.