



Thursday 17th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had an exciting second week back to school! The children have been eager, interested, happy and very well behaved making our return back to school a positive one. It has been lovely to have the children back into school and see them in their new classes. The children have coped well with the changes to the way that the school is being run and we are very proud of them. They have stuck to new routines, helped each other and are now expert and meticulous handwashers. High Quality teaching has been delivered from the start of term which pupils have been keen to get started on but we have also made sure that we have included lots of opportunities for creativity. Please see some of the children's hard work below.



Highlights of the week

Year 2 pupils have been busy working on African art work inspired by *Yinka Shonibare*.

Pupils with outstanding achievements in writing were given books to celebrate their achievement. Well done to Zainab (3 Pine), Nyamekye (1 Olive) and Kiyan (5 Eucalyptus)!

Parent Forum

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the Parent Forum on Tuesday. Following the forum there has been a lot of positive feedback from parents. A number of questions arose during the forum and we aim to address most of these queries in this newsletter. Queries raised regarding specific sites will be followed up by the Heads of School. We look forward to your attendance at the next Parents Forum.

Communication

We continue to ask you to make the school aware of any factors that may affect your child's learning or wellbeing. We ask that all parents direct any queries to their child's teacher via class dojo. You can also send an email to admin@leopold.brent.sch.uk

Water bottles

Water bottles are provided by the school and are cleaned and filled with water by staff. If you would prefer to bring a water bottle from home, please speak to your child's class teacher via class dojo or email the office.



Drop-off and collection from school

We ask that only one parent/guardian comes to school with their child. Social distancing is supported by markings on the pavement, where possible. Members of staff will be marshalling movement during drop off. This will need to be a swift process to enable social distancing and allow children to get to class swiftly. Please do not wait outside once you have dropped off your child. You can wear PPE during drop-off and collection times. This is not enforceable, but it is a point highlighted after a number of parents have raised social distancing outside of the school as an issue.

What to do if your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID 19)

Before entering the school building, you must stop and ask yourself these questions, does your child a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If you answer YES to any of the above, you must not come on site. You must call 111 for advice.

If your child become unwell during the school day they will be sent home and are advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection.

This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/918525/What_to_do_if_a_pupil_is_displaying_symptoms_of_coronavirus_COVID-19_Schools.pdf

Misinformation

After speaking to a few concerned parents as well as keeping informed about what is put out on social media, I must warn families about the untruths and scaremongering that is circulating across the UK. Please see the response from the school regarding the following claims below.

The following claims are **UNTRUE**.

1. Graphic images and films being shown for Sex Education.

Completely untrue and would never happen in schools. At Leopold Primary School, SRE (Sex Education) happens in the summer term and parents have an opportunity to see the lessons and resources beforehand. Parents also have the right to withdraw their child from those particular lessons.

2. Schools will test children for COVID-19 without parents' knowledge or permission.

Schools do not test children. We will ask you to take your child to be tested if they are displaying COVID symptoms.



3. Schools will vaccinate children without parents’ knowledge or permission.

Schools do not vaccinate children, doctors and nurses do. If children are offered a flu vaccine, this will be carried out by a NHS professional after the parents have given written permission.

4. Schools will give out personal details for Test and Trace.

Parents would have to consent to this, therefore no information will be given without consent.

5. If parents do not consent to a COVID test, social care will be informed and the children may be removed from the family.

While the school encourages testing if necessary, it is parental choice.

6. Children will be detained on school premises and not released to parents due to COVID 19.

This is also false and parents would be contacted to collect their child if they were displaying symptoms

In addition, we have had questions raising concerns regarding the use of hand sanitisers. Our primary method of cleaning children’s hands is by using soap and water. However, hand sanitiser is used in the absence of this in order to cleanse children’s hands. This is vitally important in order to keep the risk of transmission low.

Also, daily temperature checks are not conducted at Leopold Primary School. The temperature of a pupils is only checked when they are sent to the medical room. We use head sensor thermometers in order to eliminate contact and transmission between children. There is no risk to the brain development of children and it is deemed safe by the British Safety standards.

I hope that this reassures families. It is important that we all communicate and work together during these uncertain times.

Thank you for all of your support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A. Octave
Acting Head of School



Mental Health Week Mental health week takes place from 21st September. For more information, please visit <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>



Attendance Congratulations to Year 1 Holly who achieved the highest attendance with 99% attendance last week.



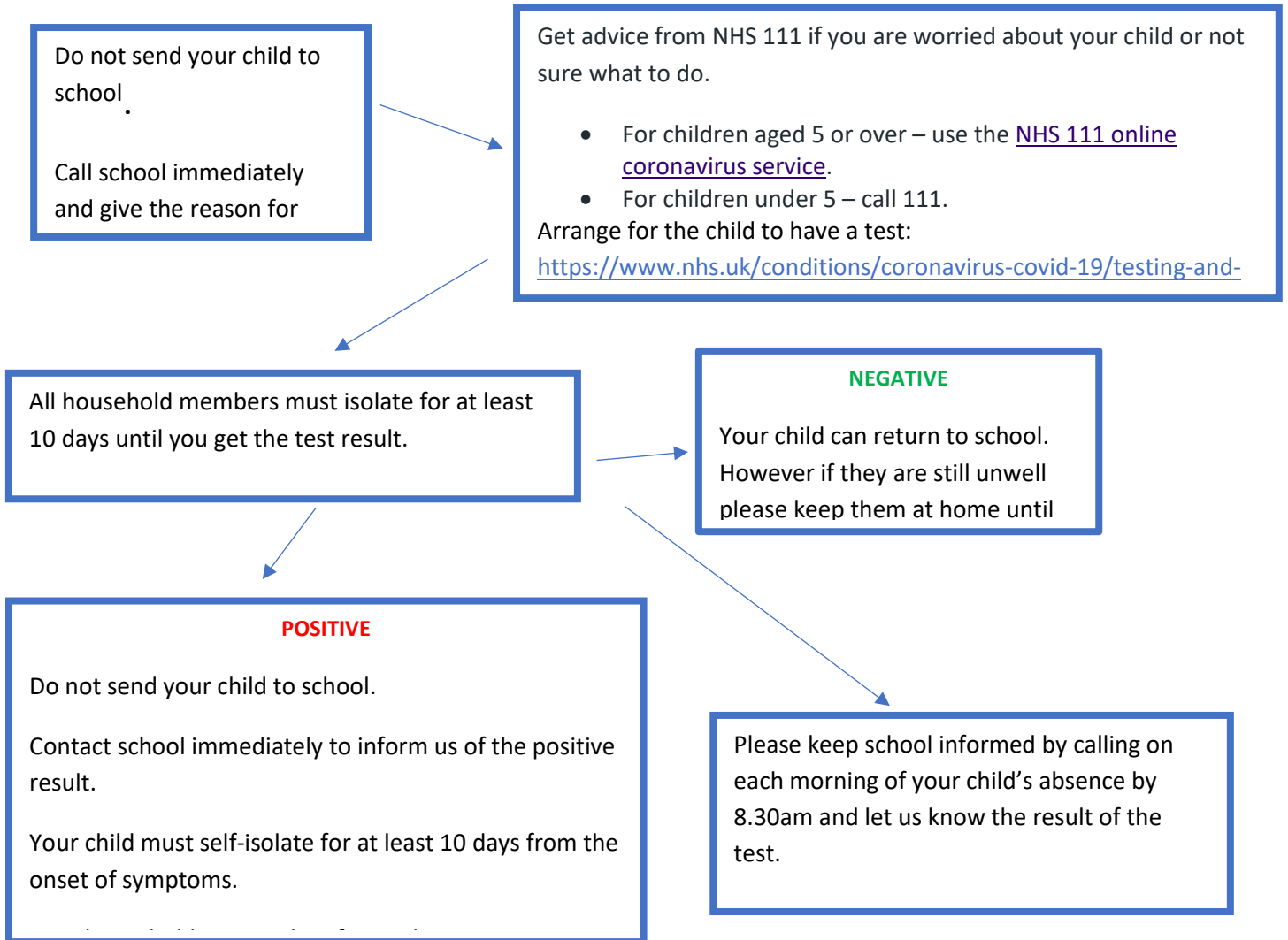
Friday 18th September

Jeans for genes Day- Friday 18th September. Pupils bring in £1 and can wear jeans.



ACTIONS IF CHILD SHOWS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AT HOME

My Child has a high temperature (38 degrees) develops a new continuous cough or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste and/or smell



Someone else in your house has COVID-19 symptoms

