



CORONAVIRUS Update

You will have, no doubt, heard the latest government guidance from yesterday's Prime Minister's broadcast regarding COVID 19.

We wanted to update you on the information that is important to all schools, and some of the additional precautionary steps that we are taking at New Marske Primary School to comply with the latest guidance.

- If a member of a household exhibits one or both of the two symptoms - new, continuous cough; high temperature - all members of the household should self-isolate for 14 days;
- Everyone else should cease non-essential social contact and non-essential travel;
- People who fall into the government's definition of more vulnerable groups (over 70s, those with underlying health conditions, and pregnant women - the latter as a precautionary measure only) should be largely shielded from social contact for around 12 weeks;
- Mass gatherings will not be supported by emergency services and will, therefore, be cancelled;
- All gatherings should be limited, where possible.

Sports Relief

Thank you to our Change for Life Club, who helped to raise over £57 for Sports relief by organising a healthy snack day on Friday.

In School Kit

- To help school prepare for any eventuality regarding staff absence. Can parents and pupils please ensure that pupils have a PE kit in school all week. This will allow classes to access PE lessons and outdoor activities when needed.
- Drinking fountains are not in use at the moment in school, please can pupils ensure that they have a water bottle in school which can be used throughout the day.

Coronavirus Precautions

At present school closure is not a current measure but was outlined as a possible further step that may need to be taken at the "right time" at the Prime ministerial briefing yesterday.

It is still anticipated that most people contracting the virus will suffer mild or medium symptoms, if they notice them at all.

To help support the guidance issued yesterday, the school plans to take the following steps:

- So that we can reduce the number of social gatherings in school, from **Wednesday 18th March** pupils will come straight into class when they come to school. School doors will be open from 8:30am. Parents can then leave the school premises without having to wait for their child/children to line up and enter. Due to the large number of parents in the playground in the morning, this is a sensible precaution in line with the recommendations. This will reduce the opportunity for large gatherings of parents and pupils. At present there are no plans to change the collection at the end of the day. As a school we do not intend to restrict pupil playtime.
- As mentioned in last week's email the postponement of planned gatherings up to the Easter break – family assemblies, and Easter tea.
- Tooth brushing will no longer take place in the Early Years Phase.

Scholastic Book Fair

The scholastic book fair is in school now with a wide range of books for all ages of pupils to buy. Children have been visiting the fair to view books. If they wish to purchase any, please can they bring money in a named enveloped on Wednesday or Thursday. Unfortunately the book fair will not be open to any parents/carers after school on this occasion.