



# Abingdon Primary School

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## Newsletter Friday 22nd December 2023



### Dates for your diary:

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Finish for Christmas

- **NO AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** – INSET DAY – Children NOT in school

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January – Children return to school

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Thumbs up Friday and Abingdon Café

Today we say goodbye (just for a short while!) to Miss Hammond, she starts her maternity leave today. We wish her the very best with her new arrival and we will let everyone know when the baby is born. We welcome our new KS1 leader Mrs Marsden, who has been visiting this week to get to know everyone. She will be taking over the class and joining our senior leadership team.

Last week, I mentioned that Abigail in Y6 has a place at Moorland Ballet Academy for next September, but I didn't get chance to share the fantastic photos we have of her. Well done Abi – what an inspiration you are!

We would like to wish everyone in the Abingdon Family a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you have a restful holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again in January.

### Weekly Wellbeing Challenge:

Here are a few ideas for the whole family for over the Christmas holidays. How many can you do? Have fun together doing them! I have added a mindfulness colouring sheet to the end of the newsletter (to print off if you can/wish) – you could always change that one to a drawing challenge!

# Christmas Wellbeing Challenge



<p><b>Day 1</b> Watch a Christmas film.</p> 	<p><b>*Day 2</b> Make an origami tree Christmas card and give it to a friend or loved one.</p> 	<p><b>Day 3</b> Make a decoration for the Christmas tree.</p> 	<p><b>Day 4</b> Write down three things that make you happy.</p>	<p><b>Day 5</b> Dance around the room listening to your favourite Christmas music.</p> 	<p><b>*Day 6</b> Relax with some mindful colouring or draw some festive doodles.</p> 	<p><b>Day 7</b> Wrap up warm and go out for a walk.</p>
<p><b>Day 8</b> Make yourself a luxury hot chocolate or your favourite drink.</p> 	<p><b>Day 9</b> Sit back, relax, and read your favourite book.</p> 	<p><b>Day 10</b> Turn off your phone, computer, and any other electronic gadgets for an hour.</p>	<p><b>Day 11</b> Spend an hour doing something creative like painting or crafting.</p> 	<p><b>Day 12</b> Write down your greatest achievement from the past year.</p> 	<p><b>Day 13</b> Come up with three goals for the new year.</p>	<p><b>Day 14</b> Let someone know you appreciate them.</p>

\*Resources will need to be printed off.



## Reception and KS1 Performances

Thank you to all the parents that attended our Reception and KS1 nativities. The children did an amazing job – it is tricky standing up in front of everyone and they were all just wonderful. We could definitely feel the Christmas Spirit whilst watching! Here's a little taster:



### Year 5 and 6 trip to the Air Raid Shelter

Year 5 and 6 visited Stockport Air Raid Shelters and Stockport Museum this week. They had a fantastic time and learnt so much to finish off their theme 'Beyond Enemy Lines'. For anyone that hasn't been Stockport Museum, the air raid shelters and Staircase House are great days out and children go free!

Have a look at the website : <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/stockport-museum>



### Choir visit to Spey House

Our fantastic choir sang again this week, this time at Spey house – which is a local residential care home. They sang beautifully and really brought Christmas to all the residents, who were very pleased to see them and loved the musical entertainment.



## Pottery Club

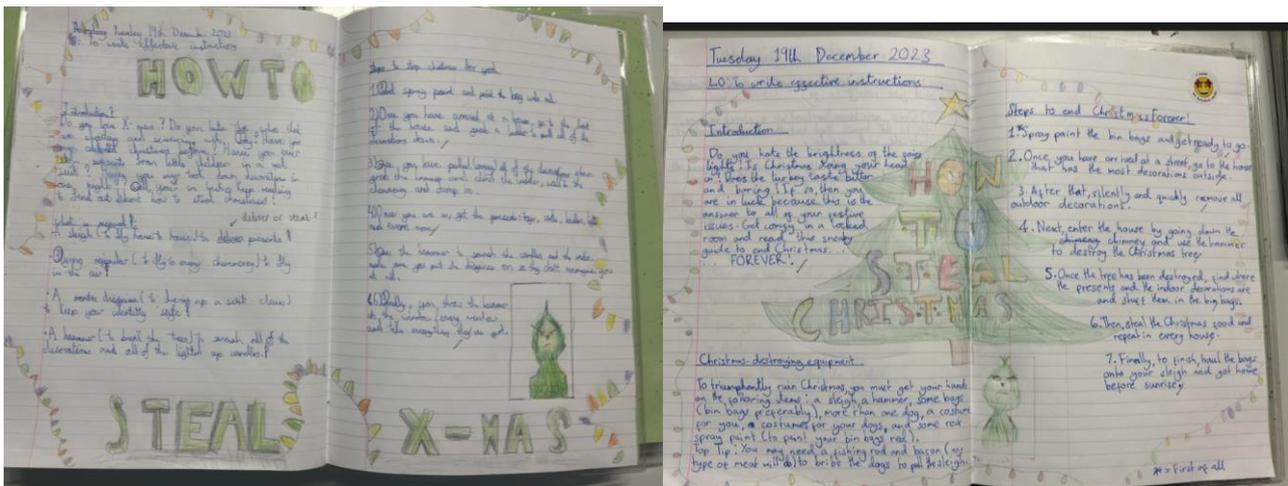
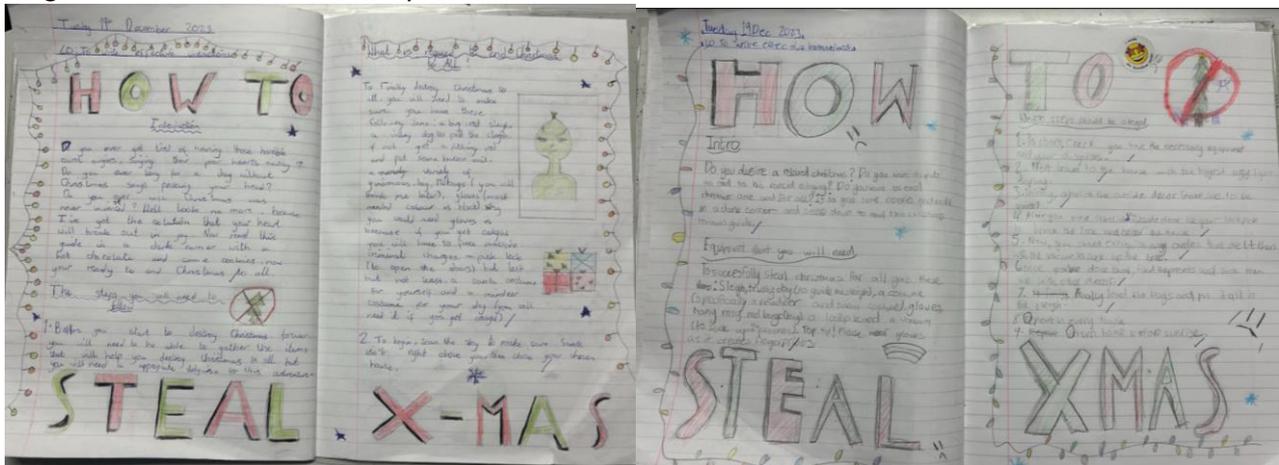
Our pottery club has been running again this half term and the children would love to share their amazing work! What fantastic pieces!

After Christmas, pottery club will be open to all KS2 children. Look out for an email from Mrs Whitehead with all the details.



## Christmas Writing

Year 5 have created some lovely pieces of writing this week. They have been writing Grinch instructions about stealing Christmas!!! Watch out everyone!



## NumBots and Time Table RockStars



There are two brilliant apps, which school purchase each year. – Numbots and TTRS. Both can be used at home and we would love them to be used more! Numbots is for our KS1 children (Reception will get a log in in the Spring term) and is a great way to practise fluency of numbers. Times Table Rockstars is a great way for Y2 onwards to practise their times tables. All the children should have logins – the login is the same for both apps. Even just 10 minutes a day on an app like this can really boost children’s confidence, number recognition and fluency with numbers – and although it is screen time, you know they are doing something worthwhile and educational.

### **Dogs on School Property**

We would like to remind all parents and carers that dogs are not allowed on school premises. This includes dogs on leads, dogs being carried, or even in a buggy. Thank you for your support in this matter

### **Breakfast Club Timings**

Just a reminder that breakfast club does not open until 07.45am. We are beginning to see children arriving earlier than this. The staff are not responsible for the children until 07.45am, therefore the children are not supervised before this time and are still the responsibility of parents.

### **Parking!**

Reddish Vale Start Well Nursery next door have politely asked us to remind parents about not parking in their car park. The car park attached to the nursery is for their employees and visitors, and on occasions, there are no parking spaces for them at critical times. They will be closing and locking their gates between 8.30 and 9.00 am and 2.30 and 3.20 pm.

### **Jumpers**

We are seeing a bit of an increase in hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers, particularly on PE days. Please refer to the uniform list below. Teachers will offer spare uniform jumpers to children who come wearing different jumpers. Please also put your child’s name on their jumper, we have another big pile of unnamed jumpers forming- which will be disposed of at the end of the term.

### **Snacks**

After Christmas, we will be rolling out a healthy snack initiative in school. We wanted to give you plenty of warning as we have seen an increase in unhealthy snacks at playtime. Our local authority advisors tell us that there is a huge increase in dental decay and obesity in children and as a community we should all work together to tackle it. This is what we want it to look like:

In the morning, the children will continue to have bagels – these are from the National Schools breakfast programme and are nutritionally balanced. They are served with a small amount of margarine.

At snack time, the children will be able to bring a *normal sized* snack, but please ensure that it is fruit, or low sugar snack. Examples might be food like – cheddars, sreen, raisins, crackers etc (crisps, sweets, chocolate will not be allowed)

At lunch time Taylor Shaw provide us with nutritionally balanced low sugar hot meals, if you are bringing a packed lunch please look at the sugar content and the amount of food within the lunchbox.

Afternoons – KS1/Rec children have free fruit (national scheme)

Water should be in all bottles.

We will sometimes have rewards that are food/sweets – however, these are very occasional, which models the idea of everything in moderation.

Some children bring in sweets for their birthday and we will be asking parents to only do this on a Friday after Christmas. Their birthday will still be celebrated in the class on the day of the birthday of course - as all children's birthdays are.

**Please also remember that we are a nut free school – no nuts or nut products should be brought in as snacks/lunch including snacks like peanut butter.**



As a school, many of us are parents ourselves and understand the frustrations around snacks. However, we want the best for the children in the school and if everyone works towards following this after Christmas, the children will take to it very quickly and smoothly.

### **Free School Meals**

A reminder that families can apply for Free School Meals via this link: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-school-grants-free-school-meals> - all you need is your NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER. If your child has just gone into year 3 they will no longer be on Universal Free School Meals, so if you think you might qualify please apply as soon as possible.

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, it is beneficial to apply for Free School Meals as your child can also access a range of other benefits and school help supplement some additional provision for you and your child(ren).

If you would prefer to apply using a school computer/internet, that is no problem and we can arrange a private area with a computer for you to apply. Just ask at the office, call 0161 480 4531 or email [admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk).

### **School Uniform**

Thank you all for your support with uniforms, looking smart and being ready with all the right things make such a difference to learning.

Please make sure **names are in all items of clothes** – especially cardigans/jumpers and coats! It is impossible to find lost items without this.

White polo shirt  
Red cardigan/jumper – with or without logo (**NO other jumpers**)  
Black/dark grey trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores  
Black shoes or all black trainers (no colour variations accepted)

#### **PE Kits for PE days**

White t-shirt and black shorts/joggers with school jumper. (**NO other jumpers/PE kits!**)

### **School Lottery**

For those families new to school, we have a school lottery that is run by the website below. Every ticket sold provides much needed funding for our school.

If you would like to take part please do sign up using the link below. Thank you.

<https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/>

Last week, one of our parents won £7.50!

### **£3000 Super Draw**

In our festive Super Draw, one lucky person will win an amazing £3,000 Christmas Cash Bonus – you could hit the January sales in style, spread the joy by giving back to a cause that holds a special place in your heart, plan your dream holiday getaway, treat yourself to the latest tech and gadgets, spruce up your living space for the new year; the choice is yours!

**Get your Super Draw tickets before Saturday 23rd December to be in with a chance to win!**

Our new Super Draw gives people new and exciting ways to play – instead of committing to weekly tickets, supporters can choose to just buy tickets for the Super Draw week, meaning more flexibility and less commitment, whilst still supporting ABINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL. Existing supporters can even choose to TOP-UP their tickets just for this weekend's draw!



#### How the lottery works

##### **£1 per ticket**



That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.

##### **Help us do more**

For every ticket you play, 76% goes to our school and prizes.



##### **£25,000 grand prize**



Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!



### Attendance:



★ The class with the highest overall attendance each week will have the opportunity to 'spin the wheel'! The wheel has lots of different choices on – some of these have been updated this year by the children.

★ Each class who achieves 97% or higher each week, or who show great improvement, will have an extra playtime the following week.

★ **ALL children who have over 95% attendance for the year, or who show good improvement of attendance, will receive an end of term certificate and treat.**

Attendance monitoring includes broken weeks and lateness. You **MUST** contact school if your child is late or absent.

The class with the highest attendance this week was: **Y2 Foxes with 98.6%** They have won 'Sweet Treat Friday' in class. This will be the first Friday back in the new term.

Unfortunately, no other classes got over 97% this week. I know we have had lots of illness and seasonal bugs over the last few weeks. Hopefully this will settle down next week

### Hot chocolate

Each week we invite a child from each class (who is chosen for being a role model for behaviour) to come and have hot chocolate and marshmallows with the headteacher. It is definitely my favourite time of the week! It was lovely to hear today why the children were chosen.





### **Gold Table**

Children are chosen by their midday supervisors for their lunchtime behaviour. Each Friday we have a 'Gold table' in the hall where the children have their lunch, they also receive a prize from the 'Gold Box'.

Otters – Rory, Badgers – Sienna, Hedgehogs –Thea, Squirrels – Alfie-John, Foxes – Junior, Falcons – Lily W, Kites – Hallie, Owls – Alisha, Kestrels - Bradley, Merlins – William, Hawks – Sophie SH, Ospreys – Olivia T

### **Class Stars of the Week**

Each week children are chosen for showing our core values. We award certificates in Celebration Time each Friday. Well done to all our stars:



Reception Badgers: Evie

Reception Otters: Luna

Year 1 Hedgehogs: Millen

Year 1/2 Squirrels: Reuben C

Year 2 Foxes: Essie

Year 3 Falcons: Skye

Year 3/4 Kites: Skylar

Year 4 Owls: Hallie

Year 5 Kestrels: Lucas

Year 5 Merlins: Ella

Year 6 Ospreys: Thomas

Year 6 Hawks: Charlotte

### **Golden Broom**

Year 3 Falcons won the Golden Broom this week for having the tidiest classroom. Well done for setting a fantastic example to others.

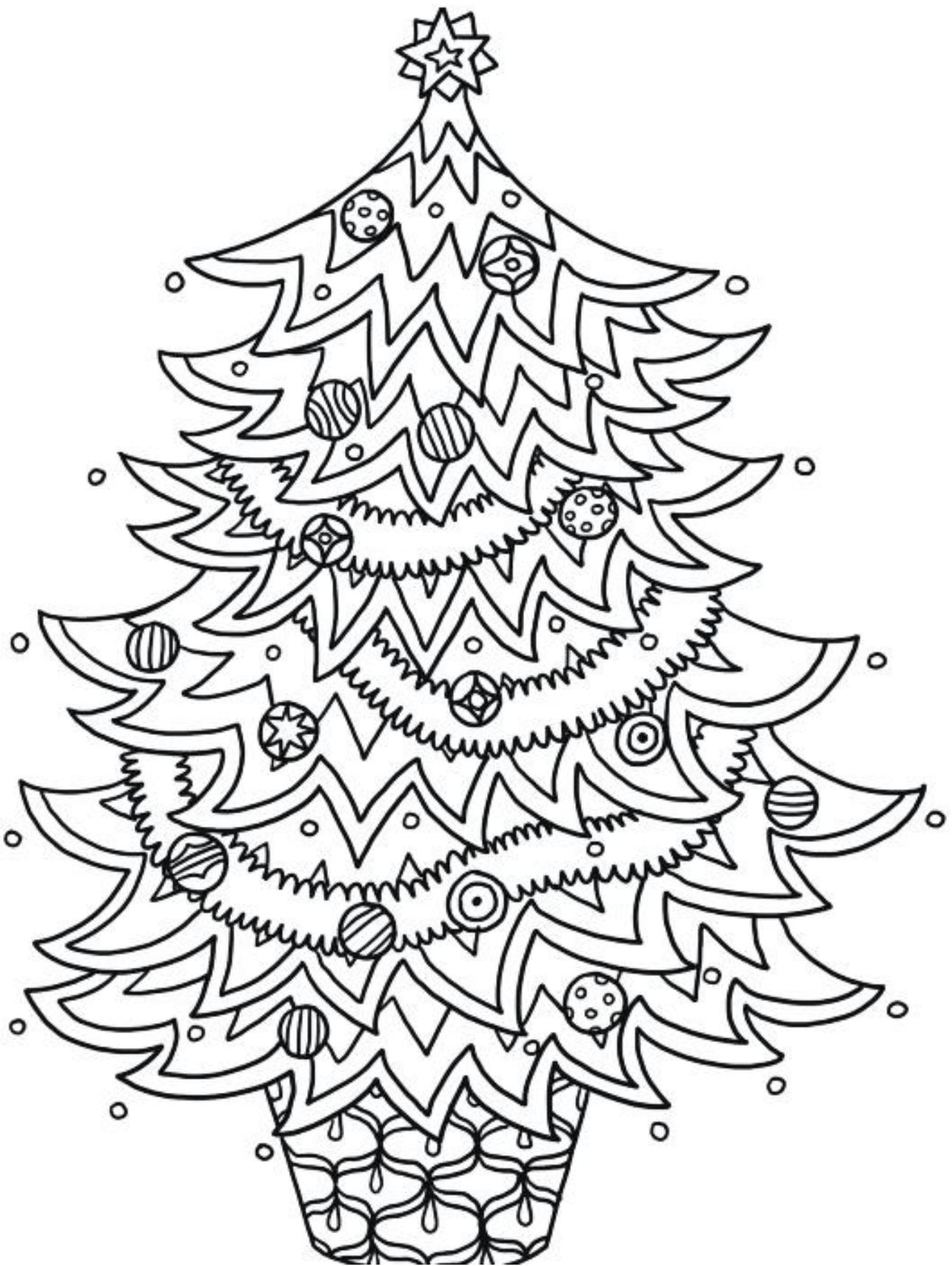
The Golden Broom is awarded by Mr Bosson (Site supervisor) .



Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year, and thank you for all your support.

Ms Spendlow

Headteacher



**Mindfulness colouring to print!**

# Holiday Dates 2023-2024

## Autumn term

Monday 4th September	INSET
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Back to School
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	School returns
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Finish for Christmas

## Spring term

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	INSET
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	School returns
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School returns
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Finish for Easter

## Summer term

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	School returns
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Finish for Whit holiday
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	School returns
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Finish for summer holidays
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET

### **Covid-19 advice**

- Children with mild symptoms of a respiratory infection include covid-19 but are otherwise well should continue to attend school. They should stay home if they have a high temperature and are unwell, and can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature/feel well enough.
- It is not recommended that children should have a covid-19 test unless directed to by a health professional, but if a child under 18 does test positive, **they should stay off school for 3 days after the day they took the test. They can return to school after the 3 days if they are well enough.**

The isolation period for COVID-19 is 6 days with a negative LFD test (24 hours apart on day 5 and day 6). See the link below for more information

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

### **School advice is still:**

If your child is displaying any of these COVID related symptoms

-a high temperature

-a new, continuous cough

-a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

or

if your child receives a positive lateral flow test, **they should remain at home until they are feeling well again.**

**Please inform school if anyone in your child's household tests positive for Covid-19.**