

Dear parents

This week we have begun to see an increase in the children's stamina, with lessons in the morning moving at a much better pace. I am hoping that we only have 1 week at half term, so that this increased stamina can be maintained into the new term. As always, the school will hear when you do about any 'circuit break' that the Government have planned – let's see what happens.

The school had the annual flu vaccinations yesterday - well done to all of the children for being so brave and sensible with the nurses.

Thank you to everyone for keeping yourselves and your families safe and well at this time. It is enabling us to continue to run school in as normal a fashion as possible. To clear up when to take a test I have copied the information form the NHS website. It is only if you **have** symptoms that you must get a test. If you have been asked to self-isolate, this doesn't require you to have a test unless you have been asked to by an employer or school. If while isolating you begin to feel unwell, it is at that point that you must get a test and we request that you then keep all family members at home and away from school until the results are confirmed.

### You can get a free NHS test if:

- you have any [symptoms of coronavirus](#) (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you're getting a test for someone you live with who has symptoms
- your local council asks you to get a test
- you're taking part in a government pilot project

### Do not ask for an NHS test if:

- you live with someone who has coronavirus but you do not have symptoms yourself – you need to [self-isolate](#)
- you've been in close contact with someone who has the virus but you do not have symptoms – you do not need to do anything unless NHS Test and Trace tells you to
- you're going abroad but do not have symptoms
- you've arrived in the UK from abroad but do not have symptoms – you need to self-isolate if you've come from a country with a high coronavirus risk
- your employer or school has asked you to get a test but you do not have symptoms

We have had some computers and ipads delivered and set up on the school system this week. The children and staff are very much looking forward to using them!

We are all looking forward to the end of term and the treats that the Friends have in store for us next week at the film afternoons! It is so important that the children continue to make memories in school, even if we can't all make these together. Thank you to The Friends for continuing to think 'outside of the box' to provide the very fun extras for our school.

### A message from The FOSS:

#### Fun at the Movies

The FOSS are getting ready for the "Syresham School Fun Movie Afternoon" next Wednesday and Thursday. Each class/bubble will be receiving themed party boxes packed full of games, crafts and other party bits and bobs including cinema style tuck treats for a fun, well deserved end of term treat.

This event is free of charge however donations are always very gratefully received if you would like to help us with the cost. There is a donation option on our PTA Events page [bit.ly/FOSSmovies](http://bit.ly/FOSSmovies)

**If your child has allergies and you wish to discuss this further please contact school.**

### **AGM**

On Monday night The Friends of Syresham School held their 2020 AGM. A big thank you to all the Parents, Mrs Clough and Paula Green (governor), who took to Zoom for our first ever virtual AGM, to hear what we have been up to and to discuss our future plans! It was a lovely upbeat evening with lots of positive news to report despite the dreaded Coronavirus!

We're delighted to report it has been yet another amazingly successful year for The Friends of Syresham School raising an impressive £5614 which considering the abrupt end to all fundraising in March is a fabulous result. Incredibly it was a record-breaking year for spending with a phenomenal £12,870 going to school!! This included significant contributions to the outdoor areas, French lessons, the PHSE mental health programme, a new phonics programme and a whole plethora of special requests from individual classes. These achievements are in no small part down to all the wonderful ladies on the committee. It isn't always easy to give our time and juggle all the other stuff going on in our lives, but we can be thoroughly proud of what we have achieved, in what has been a particularly difficult year. As a small village School we very much rely on everyone pulling together for a shared purpose, for the benefit of the children and I am very conscious that without everyone's ongoing support we just wouldn't be able to achieve all the things we do.

On top of our regular fundraising commitments to the school and the continuation of our termly class wish lists scheme, Mrs Clough provided us with ideas for future spending including "in school experience days" together with a "portable kitchen unit". So, we have a lovely long shopping list of items to fund. Now all that remains for us to do is deliver the money! (If you fancy giving us a hand with doing this, that would be marvellous!).

We said a sad but immensely grateful farewell to our Chair, Sarah Eames. She has, however, assured us that she is still keen to remain on the committee, which is great news! Caroline Ferguson was voted in as our new Chair which means we now have a vacancy for a Vice Chair. This isn't an elected or official role however it is one that is urgently needed, not least to maintain Caroline's sanity?! Annette Wilson has agreed to continue in the role of Treasurer with Claire Turnham acting as her Vice Treasurer and Lisa Gregory as Secretary. A big thank you to all these lovely ladies for stepping up! (A full chairs report can be found on our PTA Events Page please just click this link).

### **Autumn DIY and tidy up afternoon:**

We would really like to thank everyone who has kindly volunteered to help this Saturday with the school's tidy up and maintenance mission, hopefully many hands will make light work!

We will be going ahead whatever the weather has in store for us! And traditionally the weather gods have not always been kind! So don't forget your rain coat plus any of your own equipment you can bring for general tidying/gardening type duties (broom, bucket, cloths, gloves, wheel barrow, pressure washer, gardening secateurs, spade Etc.) Sadly, we won't be able to cater as we have previously in our normal lavish way, so please remember to bring your flasks/water and snacks. Also \*The school can not be open\* so please remember to have a loo break before you arrive! Social distancing rules apply so please do be aware of others and stay safe. There is now an outside sink with soap and hand sanitizer.

Please report to Hannah Bartlett-Syree when you arrive to be signed in and allocated a task!

See you all on Saturday afternoon! Thank you for your continued support.

The Friends of Syresham School

A big thank you from me to all of the parents and family members who are giving up their time on Saturday! These days make a massive difference to our learning environment – See you on Saturday!

Mrs Clough

**Headteacher Awards this week**

- Reception** - Neivah
- Year 1&2** - Ruby
- Year 3&4** - Toby
- Year 5&6** - Libby & Grace

