



Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Monday 5th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Headteacher's Update 05.12.22

I hope this letter finds you well. With less than 10 school days until the end of term, my update this week has been amended to reflect the national news of tragic child deaths as a result of Strep-A infections. Our love, thoughts and prayers go out to the families affected.

I will continue to monitor student absence at Wadham and will be working closely with our Public Health Trust to ensure we are following any changes to the latest guidance.

Information below has been taken directly from the Government website and I am sharing this with you not to cause undue alarm, but to enable us all to be informed about how best to support our children should they become unwell and display possible symptoms.

"Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious.

Therefore, look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. On darker skin, the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if you suspect your child has scarlet fever, because early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection.

If your child has scarlet fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

There are lots of viruses that cause sore throats, colds and coughs circulating.

These should resolve without medical intervention.

However, children can on occasion develop a bacterial infection on top of a virus and that can make them more unwell.

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement. Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other [signs of dehydration](#)
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Yeovil Road, Crewkerne, Somerset. TA18 7NT Telephone 01460 270123

Website : www.wadhamschool.co.uk E-Mail : office@wadhamschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr R Burgas
Chair of Governors: Mr C Chapman



SOMERSET
County Council

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's [skin, tongue or lips are blue](#)
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Good hand and respiratory hygiene are important for stopping the spread of many bugs.

By teaching your child how to wash their hands properly with soap for 20 seconds, using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, and keeping away from others when feeling unwell, they will be able to reduce the risk of picking up or spreading infections.”

As previously said, this letter has been written to inform rather than alarm.

Although there is likely to be some anxiety and concern regarding possible risk, I also know that a calm and common-sense approach will help us navigate the next few days and weeks safely.

Please do follow the advice above if your child is unwell and displaying similar symptoms. You are not wasting anyone's time by calling NHS 111 or your GP for advice and guidance. They are the professionals – let them guide and reassure you.

Similarly, we are here should you have any questions. Do please contact either myself or any member of the senior team should you like to discuss any aspect of this letter.

Many thanks as always for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Burgas
Headteacher
rburgas@wadhamschool.co.uk

Christmas Jumper (and non-uniform) Day Thursday 8th December

Christmas JUMPER DAY



A reminder that in support of Save the Children, students and staff can make a minimum £1 donation and wear their own clothes to school on Thursday.

Where possible, everyone is encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper, although this is not a requirement in order to take part in the non-uniform event.

Hoodies may be worn on this day where students do not have or do not want to wear a Christmas jumper.

As ever, thanks for your support.

Reverse Advent – 1st to the 12th of December

Continuing our theme of 'giving' we are asking all families to consider supporting local foodbanks with a Reverse Advent collection. From the 1st to the 12th of December, we are asking students to put one item of food or drink into a box each day, as a donation to the Food Bank. On the 12th of December, students will need to bring their boxes (or bags) in so that we can collect and deliver these donations on behalf of the whole school.

Even if only half the students were able to complete this, we would have nearly 5000 items of food and drink to support those most in need over Christmas. As ever, we remain grateful of any donations received.

UPDATE: completed boxes should be brought to school on **Monday 12th December** for collection – we're humbled by the positive student response and know that your kind donations will make such a difference to families in need this Christmas.

Christmas Carol Service at St Bartholomew's – 15th December

It just wouldn't be Christmas without a traditional carol service – for me the event that always marks the real start to the festive season!

This year we'd like to welcome families to our Service on **Thursday 15th December, 6.00-7.30pm** at **St. Bartholomew's Church, Crewkerne.**

The service will be a mixture of Readings and Songs, bringing to life the story of the Nativity in celebration of the birth of baby Jesus.

So that we can manage numbers, please email Lorrie Mahoney to confirm your attendance.
lmahoney@wadhamschool.co.uk



Richard Burgas 05.12.22
rburgas@wadhamschool.co.uk