



St Osyth C of E Primary School

A member of the Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust

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Friday 23rd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half of the autumn term has gone already!

It hardly seems possible that it is already so close but from Monday 26th October the children are on half-term holiday and will start next half-term on Tuesday 3rd November 2020.

Reception have been learning about people that help us and really enjoyed dressing up as part of their learning.



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Safety First!

A number of parents have said, this week, how well we have done to keep everyone in the school as safe as possible whilst allowing school to function as near to normal as possible. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) agree! **The HSE undertook a spot check, here, on Tuesday of this week and we passed with flying colours. The inspector noted that our risk assessment and operational plans are detailed, good and appropriate.** We have had a couple of minor suggestions from the inspector and we are implementing these. One of them, which shows how small the suggested improvements are, is for me to remind parents and carers to ensure that children wear vests etc so that they stay warm whilst classrooms are appropriately ventilated.

The approach we have taken to COVID19 has helped us to have:

- 1. No children test positive to COVID19**
- 2. No staff test positive to COVID 19**

We know that the two above achievements are dependent on school and parents and carers doing the right things to reduce the risk of the spread of infection and we thank you all for the role you have played in keeping our school safe. We ask parents and carers, over the half term holiday, to continue to do all that they can to prevent any possible spread of COVID 19. At the end of this letter is the summary of what we all need to do to stay safe and to follow the TIER 2 expectations.

Staying safe online during Halloween

With a digital Halloween approaching, due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents and carers are being alerted to the possibility that children may take their celebrations online this year. This could result in sharing frightening content and peer pressure to undertake harmful online challenges. Essex Children's Safeguarding Board have made resources about online safety and child exploitation available on their [ESCB](#) website.

Best Regards,



Mr M Carter-Tufnell
(Headteacher)

Local COVID alert level: high

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-levels-what-you-need-to-know#local-covid-alert-level-high>

This is for areas with a higher level of infections where some additional restrictions are in place.

This means on top of restrictions in alert level medium:

- you must not socialise with anybody outside of your household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- you must not socialise in a group of more than 6 outside, including in a garden or other spaces like beaches or parks (other than where specific exemptions apply in law)
- businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-secure manner, other than those that remain closed in law
- certain businesses are required to ensure customers only consume food and drink while seated, and must close between 10pm and 5am
- businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through
- schools, universities and places of worship remain open
- weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on the number of attendees
- exercise classes and [organised sport](#) can continue to take place outdoors; these will only be permitted indoors if it is possible for people to avoid mixing with people they do not live with or share a support bubble with; there are exceptions for supervised activities for under-18s, and disability sport
- you can continue to travel to venues or amenities that are open, for work or to access education, but should look to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible

You must:

- [wear a face covering in those areas where this is mandated](#)

You should continue to:

- follow social distancing rules
- work from home where you can effectively do so
- walk or cycle where possible, or plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport