

Bowes Primary School



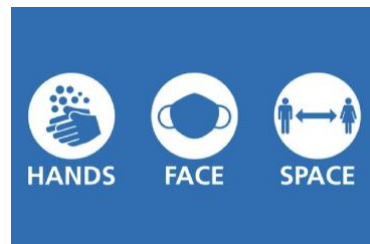
# Latest News

5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Important Updates & Reminders

### Half Term

15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021



## Half Term

School will close as usual over February half-term (15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February). The government has announced that schools are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during this week. There will be no Google Classrooms running, however there will be our traditional Home Learning grids for you to access. We must stress that these are purely optional this time around. Everyone has been working extremely hard this half term, so may prefer to have a rest from further home learning. We hope everyone enjoys the break and has the opportunity to spend some time outside. Fingers crossed for dry weather!

### Contact tracing over half-term

For the families who have been accessing our in-school provision, please remember to let the school know, by emailing the Bowes office, if your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) at the start of the holidays.

We have been provided with the following guidance from the Department of Education:

- If a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **within 48 hours of being in school**, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.
- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours since being in school**, schools are not required to take any action. Staff and parents should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

## Thank You

Thank you to all the families who have been emailing the school with their supportive words and kind wishes. We really do appreciate them during these difficult times. Hopefully, we will be welcoming all the children back to school very shortly. As soon as the government announces their plans for the reopening of schools we will share an update letter with you.



# Asymptomatic Testing for Primary School Staff

The Department for Education recently announced the introduction of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing for primary school staff. Up to one in three people who have the virus have it without symptoms (they are asymptomatic) so could be spreading the disease unknowingly. Asymptomatic testing has now commenced for Bowes staff. Along with the other protective measures we are taking, testing will allow us to take further measures to help our school to be as safe an environment as possible. Staff members who test positive as part of the asymptomatic testing programme will follow self-isolation and household isolation guidance. All pupils and staff members in the same bubble may also be required to self-isolate due to a confirmed case. If your child is sent home from school to isolate, but is not displaying symptoms of coronavirus, they do not need to be tested. Siblings in other bubbles can continue to attend as normal, providing they are well.

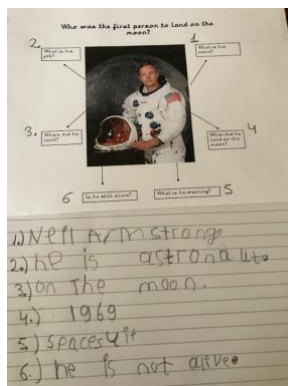
## Keeping Children Safe

Safer Internet Day is being celebrated around the world on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February**. The global theme is 'together for a better internet' and this year in the UK the focus is on how young people can tell fact from fiction, and work together to create an internet we trust. The [Safer Internet Website](https://www.saferinternetday.org.uk) has lots of top tips for parents and children, including a quiz aimed at KS2.



## Remote Learning

Again, well done to all the children for working so hard this term. They have adapted brilliantly to this new way of working and we are all blown away by the effort they are putting into their work. Here are a few examples of the excellent work that has been submitted.



## Diary Dates 2021

15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term
1 <sup>st</sup> Apr 2021	School Ends
19 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2021	School Starts
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	<b>BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> May – 4 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Half Term
7 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2021	<b>INSET – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul 2021	School Ends