

# Rufford Park Post



AIRESBOROUGH LEARNING PARTNERSHIP TRUST

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## Headteacher's news:

It has been a shorter 4 day school week but some how it has felt longer for me. The closure of another 2 class bubbles due to positive Covid-19 cases on Saturday and on Tuesday is probably the answer to this. When the children and staff are not able to attend school in these circumstances, I am counting down the days until they can all return. If the children and adults have not developed symptoms or tested positive since the bubble closures, then Y3 Willow are due to return on Monday 10 May and Y5/6 Ash will be able to return on Tuesday 11 May. In the meantime, I hope that these groups are well and are continuing to follow self isolation guidelines (as well as completing remote learning at home of course!).

I do not take the decision to close bubbles lightly and I speak to the Health & Wellbeing Team at LCC as well as Public Health England (PHE) to get advice in these situations. Whilst I absolutely agree with it, I am frustrated with the length of self-isolation and acknowledge that during this period the vast majority will be unaffected. However, the virus does spread quickly and we must remain vigilant - since I closed one of the bubbles this week, a further 3 positive cases have been reported from this group including asymptomatic cases.

Saying that, I do think that the government needs to work with the NHS, PHE and the Department of Education as we move forward. We all know that the virus is not going to go away and that we are going to have to live with it. In the [news a few days ago](#), there was an article about a new trial taking place giving people daily lateral flow tests for seven days - instead of quarantining for 10 days - and as long as they test negative for this period, they can go about their daily lives. I can see this working for adults and older children but can see challenges in the daily swabbing of much younger children. I also think the reporting element will not be easy to manage and quality assure.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Reception - new starters:** offers for September 2021 were finalised last month and we are looking forward to a full cohort next year. Leeds City Council Admissions Team are currently working through the school lists - including waiting lists - and so it is essential that all parents, whose children will start Reception in September, have contacted school to confirm their child's place.

Click below to see what has been happening in your child's class this week.

[Nursery](#)   [Reception](#)   [Y1 Pear](#)   [Y1/2 Lime](#)   [Y2 Cherry](#)

[Y3 Willow](#)   [Y3/4 Cedar](#)   [Y4 Beech](#)

[Y5 Oak](#)   [Y5/6 Ash](#)   [Y6 Maple](#)

## In assembly this week...

It has been a while since this item appeared in Rufford Park Post but assemblies have continued to be delivered remotely whilst the children have been in school. This week we talked about the **power of words** - specifically the joy words can bring as well as the harm. We also spoke about using words on social media platforms and how these words can have even more impact. These messages are coming through from other avenues too - whilst watching European football on BT Sport this week the half time adverts showed their current campaign against online abuse.



**Ongoing Item:** I have left this in for a further week because schools continue to get alerts from the LA as well as the DfE about its importance. The Children's Commissioner has launched [a survey](#) to gather the views of young people after COVID. The results will be used to inform the government of what children and young people need to live happier lives. Please click on the link above to complete it with your child. The survey closes on Friday 28 May.

## Dates for the diary

**Fri 21 May:** Bag2School collection

**Fri 28 May:** PTA fundraiser during the school day - details in next week's newsletter

**Fri 28 May (end of day):** School closes for half term holiday.

**Mon 7 June:** School opens for Summer 2

**Mon 28 June:** Teacher Training Day