



# Glenfall News

...a newsletter to inform the school community about the day to day life of our school.

Friday 23rd October 2020



## A word from the head.....

Without doubt we are all ready for the half term break. It has been a challenging term for pupils, parents and teachers alike and I thank you all for your patience and understanding with the many changes to routine we have had to endure during this time.

Despite all of the changes we have needed to put into place for the safe return of pupils to school, the children have been remarkably robust and resilient. They have all adjusted to the new ways of working and have been so flexible in having to make changes at the last minute. The children in Year 5 & 6 have also endured flooded classrooms and having to be taught in the hall and library for a week. However, the silver lining of that cloud is that they both now have lovely new carpets which have vastly improved those classroom environments.

I hope that you have all had a chance to view your child's class harvest celebration and maybe some of the others from across the school. You can access the videos on the school website and by browsing to News, then Events, then Harvest Celebration or by clicking [HERE](#) This way of celebrating harvest in school was certainly a departure from what we normally do and was definitely not without its problems. However, we hope you enjoy the videos and watching your children perform.

The booking window opened today for you to make appointments to meet your child's class teachers virtually after half term. This is another change to our normal procedures and hope it proves successful. I am sure there that there will be a few technical difficulties, so please bear with us whilst we try to resolve them for you.

With all the challenges we have faced since March I keep reflecting on this adage and how this is how we have all tackled the terms challenges:

**"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain"**

Have a great break and I look forward to seeing you all back in school on 2nd November

Mr Mitchell

## A few things...

### T4U Shoebox Appeal

We are once again asking you to support this worthy charity by filling a box with lots of goodies for a child in Romania. You will have received a letter and flyer this week with further details. The children have seen the contents of a completed box in school so know the sorts of things that can go in the box. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we can only receive these boxes on one date. The **date for our school is the 9th November**. This could be a great half term activity.



### Prospective Parents 2021 - Video Tour of School

Its hard to believe that we are already turning our thoughts to the next cohort of children coming into the school in 2021. As we are unable to hold our usual open afternoons and evening meeting we have once again had to do things differently. We have therefore created a virtual tour of the school which can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#)



Even if you do not have children due to start in 2021 you may like to view the video tour of the school, especially as you haven't been able to come into the building since March.

For parents with children due to start in Reception you will also be able to join a **Zoom Mtg on 11th November** with myself and Mrs Whyte. Please see the website for further details.



## October

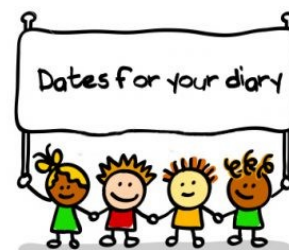
31st October - Deadline for Secondary School Applications for Y6 pupils

## November

2nd November - Term starts  
 9th November - T4U Shoebox Appeal - Collection day  
 10th November - School Photographs  
 - Remote Parents Mtgs **CHANGE OF DATE**  
 11th November - Reception Intake 2021 - Remote Open Evening  
 12th November - School Photographs  
 - Remote Parents Mtgs **CHANGE OF DATE**  
 27th November - INSET Day - **SCHOOL CLOSED**  
 30th November - INSET Day - **SCHOOL CLOSED**

## December

14th December - Flu vaccinations  
 18th December - School closes for Christmas at 2pm



## A few more things...

### Y6 Secondary School Transfer Deadline - 31st October 2020

The deadline for making your choices for secondary school transfer is 31st October. Please make your application online.

*DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!*

### Parent Pay — School Lunches

Could all parents whose children will be taking a hot lunch please ensure that their accounts are currently in credit before ordering lunches. It is important that the account is kept in credit throughout the year to ensure that debts do not mount up.

**Meals cost £2.30 per day.**



### Disabled Parking Bay

You may have noticed that the disabled parking bay now has a dropped kerb and unloading area. We now have several families who need to use this bay and would appreciate it if it could be kept clear for their use. If you need to use the disabled bay could we respectfully ask that you display your 'Blue Badge'.



### SIMS Parent

Some parents will have received emails inviting them to register for this system. SIMS Parent is our preferred method of collecting and maintaining contact information for your child. Please register to use this service and check your information and submit.



Some parents will receive reminder emails as you haven't yet registered for the service. Please register when you receive your email and check, edit and submit as soon as you are able to.

Once you are registered we would suggest that you check your information regularly. If you change your address, phone number or email you can change this information yourself and submit to the school.





## Virtual Parents Meetings - 10th & 12th November 2020

This week you will have received an email and instructions about booking appointments for your child's parent meetings on the 10th and 12th of November. The booking window for making appointments opened this morning at 07:30 and will remain open until 6th November at 16:00. The information which I sent to you this week fully explains how to book an appointment and how to join the video meetings on the day of your appointment. I anticipate a few 'technical glitches' as we get to grips with the new system and ask for your patience as we try to resolve them. As previously requested we would be most grateful if, where possible, divorced or separated parents attend the meetings together. If this is not possible you will be able to book separate appointments.



### Rags - to - Riches

#### Clearing out your wardrobes over half term?

We will be having a **Rags-2-Riches clothing collection on 9th November**. This date will be the only day that you can drop bags off for collection. You will note that it is the same day as the T4U Shoebox Collection. This has been planned to coincide so that we can minimise the potential risk of additional items being brought into school. Your bags of rags can be dropped off at the front of the school when you arrive.



### Parking Problems

Please park responsibly and with consideration for our neighbours. I have had two reports this week from neighbours of the school saying that parents have blocked their driveways and that when asked to move, the parent was verbally abusive towards them. This is not acceptable behaviour and the school will report any further incidents of this nature directly to the police.

In addition to these incidents I have seen a car, on several occasions, parked right on the corner of Briarbank Rise. This is extremely dangerous and could endanger a child's life. I have contacted the PCSO for Charlton Kings and have asked them to monitor the situation.

Apply online for

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

You can secure a tasty free meal for your child and save yourself up to £437 per year.

Plus your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.

**Gloucestershire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

If you receive a qualifying benefit, your child's school is entitled to extra funding.

So even if you don't want your child to take a free meal, you should still apply to make sure that their school receives all the government funding to which it is entitled - helping them provide your child with the best education and support.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receiving an Universal Infant Free School Meal arranged by their school will still have to apply to enable their school to get any extra funding.

If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, speak to your child's school.

For further information, including a list of qualifying benefits, visit our website or speak to your child's school today.

**Travel Assistance and Free School Meals Team**  
Access to Learning  
Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall,  
Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TP

**Gloucestershire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL

Public Health England **NHS**

## flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child

- 1. Protect your child.** The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends.** Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable family and friends.
- 3. No injection needed.** The nasal spray is painless and easy to have.
- 4. It's better than having flu.** The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record.
- 5. Avoid costs.** If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare.

**What should I do?**

Contact your child's GP if your child was aged two or three years old (on the 31 August of the current flu season) and you haven't heard from them by early November.

If your child is at primary school, the school will send you a consent form. Please sign and return it. If your child has a health condition that puts them at greater risk from flu, they can get the flu vaccine from their GP.

For more information visit [www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)

**HELP US HELP YOU**  
DON'T LET THIS WINTER

**Flu** **Communication**  
Helping to protect children, every winter



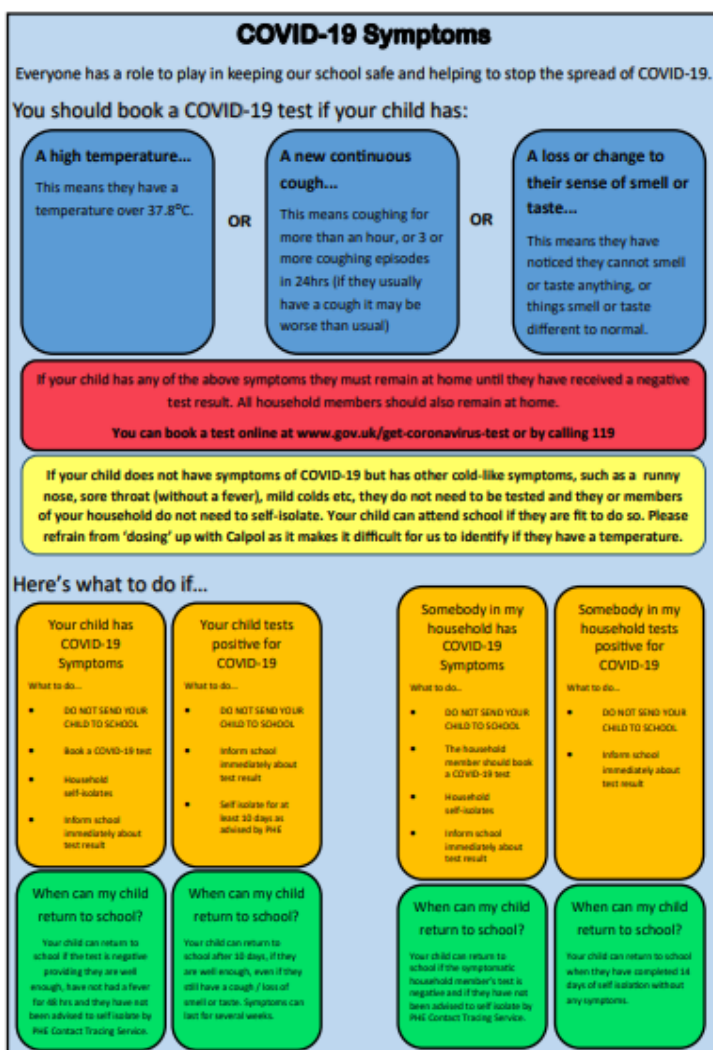
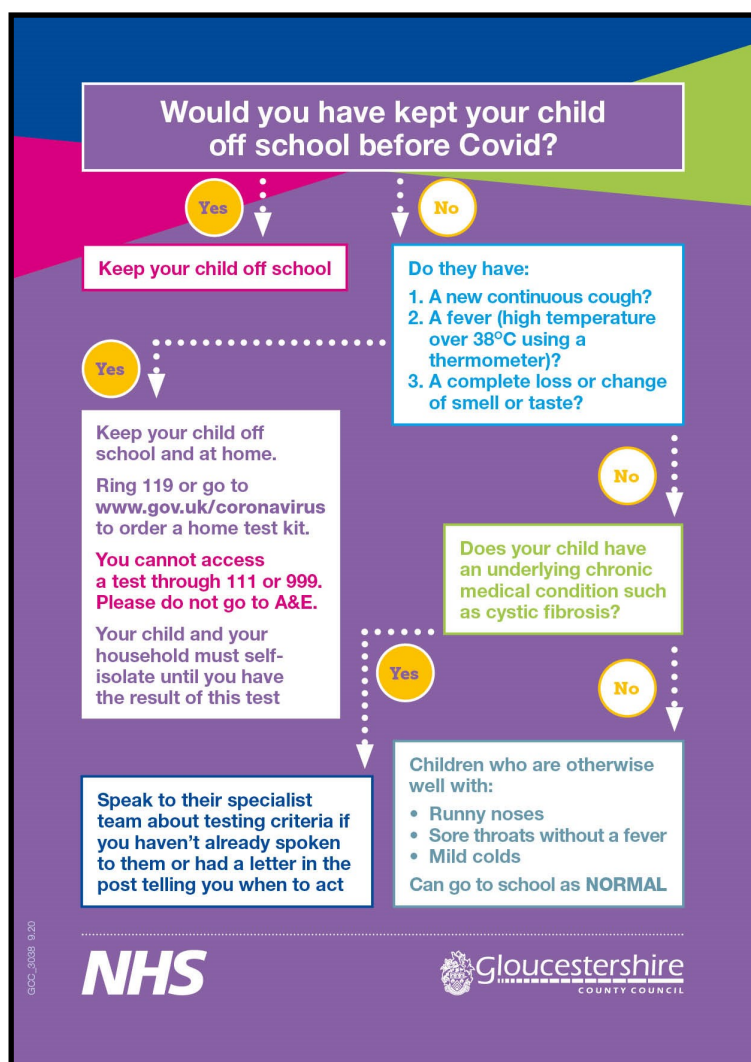
# STAY ALERT ► CONTROL THE VIRUS ► SAVE LIVES

## What should I do if my child tests positive for COVID-19 over a weekend or during a holiday?

You **must** contact Mr Mitchell on this number **07434617493** to inform him of the situation. Please leave a voice mail or text message if the phone isn't answered.



This is so that information regarding possible contacts can be passed to PHE Track & Trace.



## COVID-19 Risk Assessment

This risk assessment has been updated and posted on to the school website. You can access it via this link:

[COVID-19 Risk Assessment](#)

# STAY ALERT ► CONTROL THE VIRUS ► SAVE LIVES