

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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Friday 26th November 2021

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

All Surrey schools today received the message below regarding Covid and have been asked to communicate this with families.

Covid rates are rising fast in Surrey and it is important that we do everything we can to get the rates down and protect ourselves and others from the virus. Therefore, with immediate effect, the Surrey County Council Director of Public Health strongly recommends that face coverings should be worn in communal areas (excluding classrooms) for primary school staff and visitors, and secondary school pupils, staff and visitors, unless they are exempt or have a reasonable excuse. This is applicable to all Surrey schools, education settings and further education settings for the remainder of the Autumn term.

We had already taken the step to introduce mask wearing in communal spaces and so our staff and students will see no changes. We will continue to encourage mask wearing in taxis and hand sanitiser on arrival and departure to and from school. Students and staff may wear masks in classes if they feel comfortable doing so, but this is currently not a school nor Local Authority recommendation.

In addition, SCC have indicated that *there are a number of other ways parents/carers can help to prevent the spread of the virus:*

- *Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms, so it is vital that parents/carers get their child a PCR test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.*
- *Please encourage your secondary school children to lateral flow test twice a week, to avoid unknowingly spreading the virus.*

Anyone over the age of 12 is now eligible for their coronavirus vaccination. A full list of all places offering the vaccination across the South East, whether that be first or second doses, or the Covid-19 booster, visit [Find a walk-in coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination site - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). To book an appointment – visit [Book or manage your coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). People that can't go online can book by phoning 119.

We are seeing an increase in students returning from Covid related periods of isolation, with attendance approaching

80% today. Thank you to all of the families who have expressed their gratitude for the educational and emotional support offered during periods of isolation. We will continue to run the school dynamically, taking into account any changing circumstances. I wish you all a safe (and warm?) weekend.

Paul Jensen

Friends of Sunnydown

Quiz night: As you will be aware from earlier correspondence, the quiz night scheduled for today has been postponed to early 2022 (date TBC). This is due to increasing Covid 19 rates within school over the past week. If you have booked a ticket, please email friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk to let us know if you would prefer a refund or to roll your ticket to the new date.

Snow day: Regretfully, we have also made the difficult decision to cancel the long-awaited family snow day, planned for Saturday 27th November. However, we are very keen not to disappoint the boys, so we are still planning to hold a snow day for them in smaller groups whilst in school on Friday 10th December.

Artist of the Week

The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle and Miss Adams for the excellent poster he made for awareness of the Slough Refugee Support charity is:

**Felix Drummond
(8T)**

House Points

Jayden Smurthwaite	250 House Points
Byron Boniface	450 House Points
Lucas Abrams	500 House Points
George Hodgson	500 House Points

Friday Curriculum: 03/12/21

A timetable of events will be sent out next week.

Link to Sunnydown Form Page for all other updates:

<https://sites.google.com/sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk/sunnydown-learning-hub/home>

