



**SETNS Newsletter
14th January 2022**



Happy New Year and welcome back to all our pupils, staff, parents/guardians. We are very happy to be back and are looking forward to settling the children into the school routine again. As communicated to you prior to returning; in order to ensure our safe return, we ask you to do the following;

- Re-read our Covid-19 Response Plan <http://www.swordseducatetogether.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Covid-Response-Plan-2021-2022.pdf>
- Be familiar with the new isolation guides for children and adults which were updated from today. These are summarised below.
- Children from 3rd- 6th Classes wear masks/face coverings. These face coverings are changed/washed regularly in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19 between home and school.
- Keep up to date with Public Health and HSE advice on isolating.
- **Finally, and most importantly, if your child is unwell in any way, PLEASE do not send them to school.**

Due to the current high number of cases, we are finding staffing within the school quite challenging. To date we have been lucky sourcing enough substitution cover to manage. We have also had to utilise our SEN Teachers on some occasions. Going forward, if we cannot source suitable substitute cover, we may have no alternative but to ask children from specific classes to remain at home. As communicated, this will be a last resort. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding at this time.

JAN 14 CHANGES TO CLOSE CONTACTS OF COVID-19 CASES

- Close contact over 12 years who have had their immunity boosted***
 - ✔ Not required to restrict movements unless you become symptomatic
 - ✔ Take regular antigen tests over 7 days, with the last test on day 7
 - ✔ Wear FFP2 or medical grade masks for 10 days
- Close contacts over 12 years who have not yet received their booster**
 - ✔ Restrict movements for 7 days
 - ✔ Take regular antigen tests over 7 days, with the last test on day 7
 - ✔ Wear FFP2 or medical grade masks for 10 days
- Household close contacts aged 0 – 12 years**
 - ✔ Restrict movements for 7 days
 - ✔ Aged 4-12 years take regular antigen tests over 7 days, with the last test on day 7
 - ✔ Aged 0-3 years testing not advised unless symptoms develop (PCR test)
 - ✔ Aged 9-12 years should wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days
- Non-household close contacts aged 0 – 12 years**
 - ✔ Not required to restrict movements unless you become symptomatic
 - ✔ Seek a test if you develop symptoms
 - ✔ Aged 9-12 years should wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days
- Close contacts of any age who have recovered from COVID-19 (detected by PCR or antigen since 1st December 2021)**
 - ✔ Not required to restrict movements
 - ✔ If you become symptomatic self-isolate, get tested and wear a facemask as appropriate.

*Your immunity is boosted if you are 7 days post booster/3rd vaccine dose or have a combination of primary vaccination and recent infection detected on antigen or PCR testing, within the last three months

ANYONE WITH SYMPTOMS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SELF-ISOLATE AND GET TESTED.

World Religion Day

World Religion Day is celebrated every January on the third Sunday of the month. This year it falls on the 16th of January. Its aim is to promote understanding and peace between all religions, encouraging people to learn about other faiths and their followers. Our Learn Together Programme includes a strand on Belief Systems, where we equally explore the many religions in our World. Thanks to Áine for the lovely display in our school foyer.

RSE Programme

As communicated to you last week we have started our RSE (Relationship & Sexuality Education) Programme this week. This is a school-wide approach and part of the SPHE Curriculum.

Theme 1 "Myself" will be completed next week. It is a good time of year to make yourself familiar with our RSE Policy:

<http://www.swordseducatetogether.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/RSE-Policy-2020.pdf>.

Class teachers will send home the home-school link information either before or after the lessons, depending on content.

Primary Language Curriculum

As communicated to you in our previous Newsletters, the school will be engaging in Professional Development days relating to the Primary Language Curriculum, as directed by the Department of Education. This will involve a number of ½ Day closures, the second of which will be on **21st January 2022**.

In order to facilitate a safe exit for the students on the day, a staggered departure timetable will be in operation.

Time	Classes
11.15a.m	Junior Infants Senior Infants
11.25a.m	1 st Class 3 rd Class
11.45a.m	2 nd Class 5 th Class
11.50a.m	4 th Class
12p.m	6 th Class

**SWORDS EDUCATE TOGETHER NS
Fundraising Lotto**
FIND OUT MORE AT OUR FUNDRAISER.IE/ORG/SWORDSETNS

Huge thank you to all our School Fundraising Lotto participants. There has been a huge uptake since our launch before Christmas. If you haven't managed to join the recent lotto craze, there is always time....

Congratulations to our winners over the holiday period;

- Beatriz (Mum to Martina in Isolde's Class)**
- Debbie (Mum to Jamie and Sam)**
- Rachel (Mum to Clodagh and Senan)**
- Deirdre (Mum to Orla in Niamh's Class)**

Lost Key

This key was found outside the school last week. Please contact the office for collection.

