

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all keeping well and have got back into the school routine and those first time nerves have abated and everyone has settled. I can't tell you how lovely it has been to have the school full again. It has been a privilege to see the sheer joy of our young people as they share experiences and talk to their friends.

The children have loved Science week and realising that everyone is a scientist. The boats all looked fantastic and it will be great to test them when the weather improves. It is clear much thought has gone into creating effective models.

Pick-up and Drop off times:-

Y1/2 (Robins) drop off **8.40am** - pick up **2.50pm** (with no siblings in other year groups)
2.55pm (if siblings in other year groups)

Y3/4 (Raccoons) drop off **8.40am** - pick up **2.55pm**

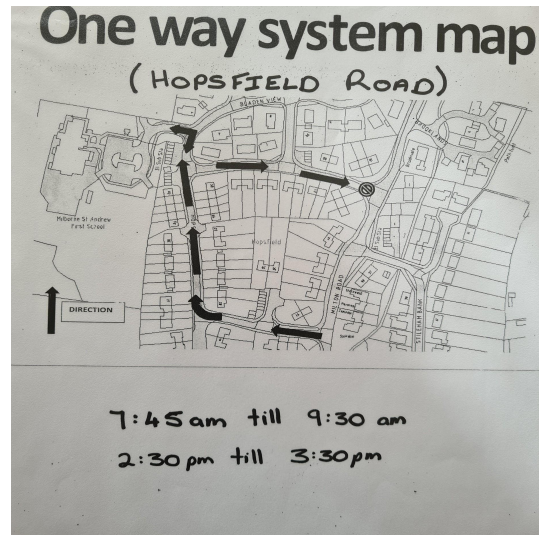
YR (Rabbits) drop off **8.45am** - pick up **3.00pm**

I was really pleased to see more people using the **Drop Off Zone**. Remember this is the area directly outside the front of the school only.

If a child has been dropped off using the 'drop & go', please allow them quick and easy access to the gate through the queue.

The gate at the front of the school has been closed as we unfortunately had a couple of incidents where parents drove in too fast and we closed it as a safety measure to reduce speed. I can see that this causes some delays in the morning and am happy to reopen it to improve traffic flow when dropping off but will close it again if there are ANY issues, so please do drive slowly and carefully through the car park. This is for the safety of all users: staff, parents and children.

A small number of parents have asked for temporary permission to wait at pick up time in the drop off area for personal reasons. **Please only do this if you have been given this permission from me.**



Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access **regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing**.

Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- Through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- By collecting a home test kit from a local test site - anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 pack of 7 tests
- By ordering a home test kit online - please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

ZOE app:- Thank you for those who have already signed up. A reminder for those who haven't as yet.

I have registered our school for this. Please see the information below about what it entails. I know many of you will have been completing the app daily since the first Lockdown:

Milborne St Andrew First School has partnered with the COVID Symptom Study to help make sure our students are as safe as possible as we head back to the classroom, whilst doing our part in creating the world's largest scientific dataset of COVID-19 in children.

We are asking all parents to join the COVID Symptom Study now, by downloading the free app and taking less than 1min a day to report how your child/children are feeling **each** day. With all parents reporting daily via the app, the app will provide a powerful tool for helping the school and parents understand COVID in the community and help keep our students safe. Importantly, the information you report will be invaluable to critical scientific research into COVID in children and for public health purposes - the Study will be sure to share any findings from their research with you.

So we are asking all parents to download this app as soon as possible. The app is available to download from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Simply create a profile for yourself and for your child/children. To join our school network in the app and receive personalised COVID insights about our school, go to Edit Profile for your child's profile > School Network > enter our school's Unique School Network Code (see below) > select the Bubble that your child belongs to.

Our Unique School Network Code is AR7RBKV. To avoid outsiders joining, please do not share this code with anyone who is not a parent of our school.

For more information including full instructions on how to join and use the COVID Symptom Study app please head to: <https://covid.joinzoe.com/schools>

What is the COVID Symptom Study app and why should you use it?

The [COVID Symptom Study](#) app is a not-for-profit initiative that was launched at the end of March 2020 to support vital COVID-19 research. The app was launched by health science company ZOE with scientific analysis provided by King's College London. Now, with over 4 million contributors globally, the Study is the world's largest ongoing study of COVID-19.

The app also provides unique insight on asymptomatic and symptomatic information across the UK which builds into a larger picture for the government and captures information not covered by other means. The Government has been so impressed with the data and research being produced it is now funding ZOE to continue the great work.

All data collected in the app is used anonymously for informing other parents in your child's school and your child's school, and anonymously for research and for public health purposes only. ZOE takes data security and privacy very seriously and enforces [best practices](#) to ensure all data is protected. ZOE is required to protect all data by law. As the work that ZOE does takes place in the UK, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation applies.

Finally, I wanted to make you aware that we are an **Operation Encompass** school. This means that we work closely with Dorset Police. Where there is an incident of Domestic Abuse at night or over the weekend where the police are involved, we will be notified prior to the child coming to school. This means that we can support the child in school appropriately. In the past, contact wasn't always in a timely fashion and meant children were potentially unsupported when they needed it the most so I am delighted that this is such a high priority for Dorset Police.

We have noticed that the children are having HUGE snacks and then not eating their lunches. We have let this go this week as the children adjust to not being able to eat at the same times they would at home. From next week, however, could we please go back to healthy fruit only for snacks.

Hope you have a relaxing weekend,

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Hunt

External information:-

- **COVID research:**

"The University of Salford is conducting some research looking at children between 7-17 usage of personal electronic devices (PED) and their effects on postural, physical and musculoskeletal systems and the impact of COVID 19 restrictions on PED usage and physical activity. Please could your children complete this questionnaire? <https://tinyurl.com/gcqlnqyp> thank you"

The student's participation in this research project will involve following the link provided below, which will take them to an online questionnaire. Participation in this research project is voluntary, and their anonymity and confidentiality will be ensured and respected.

Link to the online questionnaire on:

<https://salford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/childrens-technology-usage-during-covid-lockdowns>

Participating in the questionnaire the children are eligible to be entered into a randomised draw to win an iPad.

If you have any questions regarding the research project or the online questionnaire, please contact:

Researcher – Anna Clark a.clark23@edu.salford.ac.uk

Research Supervisor – Anna Cooper-Ryan A.M.Cooper-Ryan@salford.ac.uk

- **Virtual PSAS. Parenting Skills & Strategies One-to One Phone Consultations:-**

Please see the attached flyer for more information and dates and how to book a session.

- **E-Census - 21st March:-**

Census Day is Sunday 21 March and it's fast approaching. The census helps to plan and fund public services in your area, including your school, transport and the NHS. The information provided will help to make sure that services meet the needs of our changing society. Please help us spread the word, so we can let everyone know how important it is to fill in the census questionnaire.

Please see the previous message sent for more information.