



Friday 14th January 2022

Dear parents/ carers,

The end of another week has arrived - and we are already half way through January ! The weather has turned colder, please make sure children are dressed warmly for the playground and for inside as we try to maintain ventilation within our classrooms, in line with covid guidance.

This week I am sharing information with you along with the usual round up of news and reminders.

#### RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 28-30 January 2022

**Be wowed by your local wildlife. Big Garden Birdwatch is for everyone, whether you're a complete beginner or a birding expert. Simply count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for one hour between 28 and 30 January 2022.**

It's easy to do Big Garden Birdwatch. Simply choose an hour between 28 and 30 January and count the birds that you see land in your garden, local park or from your balcony. Then tell us what you saw.

You can sign up using this link: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/birdwatch-take-part/>

#### Secondary Transition Project

If you have a child in year 6 in any of the Aspire schools you will receive another letter from me today outlining the year 6-7 transition project which starts this term and continues until July. There will be regular letters to parents, tasks and activities in school and ideas for things that you can do at home to support your child's transition.

### Covid Isolation guidance changes

The amount of time you have to isolate if you test positive for covid, is changing from Monday 17th January 2022, to five days if you test negative on day 5 and 6. You can return to work or school immediately on day 6. Please see below for the government guidance.

## **Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19**

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

### Parent Council Meeting

The next Aspire Federation parent council meeting will take place on Monday 17th January at 1.30pm. This meeting will take place virtually and a link has been sent to those parents who are involved. If you have anything you would like to be raised at the meeting please speak to your class representative. There are some vacancies if you are interested in being part of the council please contact me at [exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk).

Wishing you all pleasant family weekends,

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling

Executive Headteacher

Aspire Federation