



Inspiring interaction



[www.pathfield.devon.sch.uk](http://www.pathfield.devon.sch.uk) |

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### Spring Term

Tuesday January 5th

-

Thursday April 1st

### Easter Holiday

Friday April 2nd

-

Friday April 16th

### LATEST OFSTED REPORT

[https://  
reports.ofsted.gov.uk/  
provider/25/113638](https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/25/113638)

### PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE

[https://  
www.pathfield.devon.sch.uk/  
news-events/news/](https://www.pathfield.devon.sch.uk/news-events/news/)



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming many more pupils back into school on Monday. I've outlined in previous newsletters the measures that we are taking to keep everyone safe in school and these are still in place as we open more fully. Class bubbles will still be in operation with very limited contact with other staff and pupils and the plan is for this to stay in place until Easter when we will review again.

If you are concerned about your child returning to school, then please raise this with the class teacher in the first instance and we can look at how we can support you as a school.

Announcements and developments around testing continue at a pace and I've copied the latest advice regarding home testing for you below. We still have the policy that staff test at home twice a week and secondary aged pupils can have a home testing kit from school on request.

This week has included world book day and we have focused as a school on the Colour Monster with lots of fun activities within classes on colour and emotions. We've been updating our displays with art work from the story to make school an exciting and vibrant environment.

Other exciting news is the handover of our two new classrooms at the front of school. These will be fitted out and set up over the coming weeks with a full opening after the Easter Holidays. There is a photograph of the handover of keys in the newsletter and hopefully we will be able to share some more exciting photographs soon!

Thanks for all your support over a very challenging time and let's hope that next week really is the green shoots of brighter times ahead.

Stuart



## Department for Education

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. 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 packs 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.

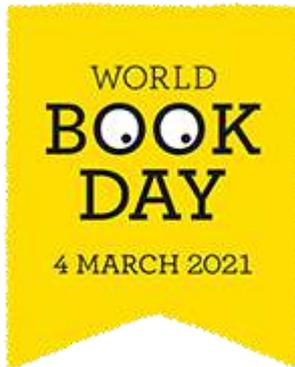
Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

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.

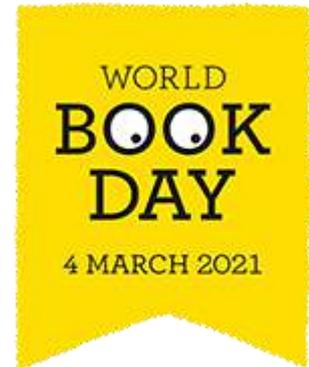
### **Guidance from Department for Education**

Please find below a link to information for parents and carers about attending schools, nurseries and colleges in the spring term 2021.

[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)



## World Book Day Thursday - March 4th



We have used **The Colour Monster** book as the theme for our World Book Day at Pathfield School.

We enjoyed several activities around the story with the children yesterday. We did lots of rainbow-themed craft and cooking activities, dramatizing the story with our older students and creating rainbow and colourful artwork with all pupils.

Some children also came in their fancy dress and staff could not miss out on this colourful event either. :-)



## The handover of our two new classrooms

Stuart is receiving the keys to the new classrooms from Carrilea Mason of Mercury Construction (Main Contractors for the Project) in a socially distanced way of course!



## Help your child prepare for school and support their mental health

While the prospect of going to back school will be exciting for many pupils, some might feel anxious. That's perfectly normal. Lots of children will feel the same way.

Start to talk to your child about the daily routine that they were once so familiar with and what they are looking forward to about going back. You could go through some of the changes they may expect at school and think about ways they can re-establish their connections with friends and teachers.

Reassure children about the safety measures in place to keep them safe and if possible remind them that they can also help prevent germs spreading by washing their hands with soap, coughing or sneezing into their elbow and giving everyone extra space.

It doesn't have to start as a conversation about worries, but these might arise as you talk. There are lots of resources in the [Mental Health Foundation's 'Time for Us' pack](#) to help manage those worries.

It's often good to have these discussions while you are doing something else, like playing with Lego, drawing, cooking or travelling in the car rather than sitting face-to-face as that can feel quite intense.

It's been a hugely disrupted year, and it might take a little while for children to get used to the change, and that's normal. There'll be ups and downs. Try your best to support, reassure and comfort them, without putting pressure on yourself to make it better.

If you're concerned about your child's mental health, speak to the school and your GP.

[NHS Every Mind Matters website](#) has lots of useful information about looking after your children's mental health during the coronavirus pandemic.

[Young Minds offers advice about mental health](#) for children and young people up to the age of 25. [They also have a Parent Helpline](#) on 0808 802 5544.

Childline offers a confidential telephone counselling service, so your child can speak to someone anonymously. They can call 0800 1111 any time, free of charge, or have an [online chat with a counsellor](#), or check out the [Childline message boards](#).

# Lunch Menu w/c 08/03

<https://www.pathfield.devon.sch.uk/parents-carers/school-lunches/>

<b>Week 2</b> <b>18/01, 08/02, 08/03, 29/03</b>	
<b>Mon</b>	Sweet and Sour Pork Cheese Wheels Noodles Peas and Sweetcorn  Chocolate Sponge and Custard Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Bowl
<b>Tues</b>	Turkey Cobbler Vegetarian Chilli and Rice Peas & Carrots  Caramel Shortbread Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Bowl
<b>Wed</b>	Roast Chicken Lentil Loaf Roast Potatoes, Broccoli, Cauliflower  Fruit Crumble and Custard Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Bowl
<b>Thurs</b>	Cumberland Sausages Vegetarian Sausages Creamed Potatoes, Baked Beans  Cookie Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Bowl
<b>Fri</b>	Battered Cod Vegetarian Pizza Golden Fries, Peas, Tomato Sauce  Iced Sponge Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Bowl



## Growing Challenge

Grow carrots, lettuce and make rainbow wraps - discover cooking activities inspired by what you're growing. Sign up with '[Action for Children](#)' and get your Very Hungry Caterpillar growing packs - one for every season! 🌱 🥕



# spring clean your lifestyle week



Devon in Action

Join people across Devon and take steps together to improve your quality of life while doing your bit for climate change.

**WIN**  
AN **ELECTRIC BIKE!**  
and other eco prizes by  
entering the prize draw when you:

- Take the Lifestyle calculator on our website
- Choose one of our 7 easy carbon saving actions
- Post on social media / share it with us



**12-21 March**

at [www.carbonsavvy.uk/lifestylespringclean](http://www.carbonsavvy.uk/lifestylespringclean)

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## Important



The most important thing you can do to help keep everyone safe is to remember that nobody should attend school if they, or anyone in their household or support bubble, is showing any symptoms of coronavirus. Please stay at home!