



# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2023

&

FRIDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2023

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# Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies for not getting a newsletter out last week. The winter bugs and viruses have been particularly virulent this year so I'm afraid illness prevented me putting the newsletter together until now. I've tried to include everything that teachers have sent over so some classes have two pages of news from the last two weeks while others have a bit less.

Preparations are well underway now for Christmas, and each class is rehearsing their own Christmas performance to entertain you this week. If you haven't already booked your place in the audience, then please do so. We will have audience lists for each performance to ensure that we limit numbers to a safe level. If you haven't booked a ticket prior to the performance, we may not be able to admit you.

Links are here:

EYFS <https://forms.gle/jqhDBH9bQ19ge9Uo6>

Y1&Y2 <https://forms.gle/k1qfoESRLmsrfWtw6>

Y3& Y4 <https://forms.gle/K4N3Sa5tkvcDhVQZ7>

Y5&Y6 <https://forms.gle/zL6gAoYrPu6QK3g2A>

Wishing you all a very happy and relaxing weekend, Miss CB

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# Term Dates and Events

Tues 12th Dec	School Christmas Dinner day (wear your Xmas jumpers again!)
Tues 12th Dec	9:30am Y3&4 Xmas performance 1:30pm Y1&2 Xmas performance
Tues 12th Dec	Y5&6 trip to see Elf the Musical at Childwall
Wed 13th Dec	9:30am Y1&2 Xmas performance 1:30pm Y5&6 Xmas performance
Thurs 14th Dec	9:30am Y5&6 Xmas performance 1:30pm Y3&4 Xmas performance
Mon 18th Dec	9:30am EYFS Xmas performance 1:30pm EYFS Xmas performance
Tues 19th Dec	KA Christmas Service in St John's
Tues 19th Dec	Fingers-crossed for a visit from Santa!
Tues 19th Dec	Christmas Read-In
after-school family event	
Thurs 21st Dec	Term ends 2pm



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# What have we been learning? Nursery



This week in nursery we had Stay and Play and lots of our families came to play with us in nursery - we had mums, dads, brothers, sisters and even a grandad. We had lots of fun getting dressed up and playing games.

We opened Santa's Workshop in our role play area and we dressed as Elves and Santa and built lots of toys, ready to go on Santa's sleigh !

We had a visit from Adele from the Children's Centre who came to tell us all about looking after our teeth and eating healthily. She brought Carl the crocodile with her, and we helped to clean his teeth .

Our sound this week was M for Maria and Mia !!

We have been learning the language of length in maths - long , longer longest, short, shorter shortest.

We read the story of the First Christmas and acted it out using figures from our crib . We made our own stables and talked about all the people in the story of the First Christmas.

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# What have we been learning? Nursery



This week, Nursery had a very wet and muddy start to the week in Forest school . We had great fun though and we all had a go at drilling holes in our wooden Christmas decorations . We decorated them back in class later in the week .

We made nativity scenes and talked about each of the characters as we put them in our stables. We made Christmas cards for our families and made Christmas wish lists - we practised our fine motor skills cutting up toy catalogues and we talked about our favourite toys .

We have been very busy practising our Christmas songs and rhymes and Mrs Davies and Mrs Blower were very impressed with our BSL signing and how sensible we were in the hall. In phonics our sound this week is d and we have been singing lots of rhymes and listening out for rhyming words. In maths we have been continuing to use language of capacity and length and we have been ordering numbers to 5 or 10 .

We got dressed up in all our winter woollies and enjoyed playing outside on some lovely frosty days this week.

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# What have we been learning?

## Reception



Reception started out the week with their visit to Forest school, all wrapped up and prepared for the cold weather! They had lots of fun having a go at sawing logs!

In phonics we have learnt the sound 'b as is bone' and have been looking at changes within 5 in maths, talking about 'one more'.

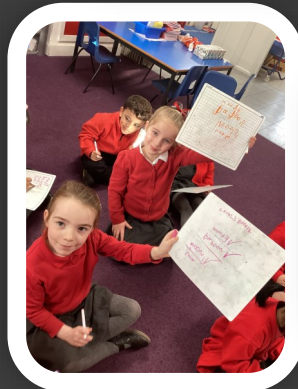
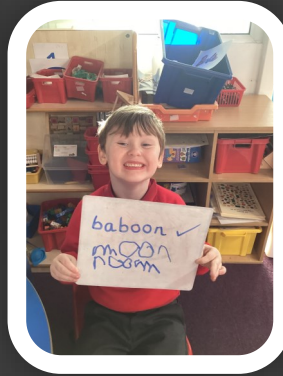
We had great fun in PE playing parachute games, especially the "mushroom" game and letting the parachute fly up high. Lots of excitement!!

We also put up our Christmas tree this week and started to write 'thank you' letters to our Fire Fighter visitors 🚒

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# What have we been learning? Year 1



This week Year 1 have started their rehearsals for the Christmas performance. Our main performance is Frosty the Snowman which they've worked so hard on learning and singing. In English, we've watched Baboon on the Moon and analysed how the baboon is feeling and why. In Maths, we've looked at number bonds within 10 which they've done really well with. The children also enjoyed forest school this week, having the opportunity to saw a log. The children have thoroughly enjoyed making their own book art. This is a book that has pockets to put things in and pop-up elements as well of lots of other excited features. The children are using their learning and getting creative to make this book. It's been lovely to see their enthusiasm and enjoyment when they're watching it transform. We've had a lovely week getting into the Christmas spirit.

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# What have we been learning? Year 1



This week the children have been rehearsing for their Christmas performance next week. They've worked so hard and are so excited to get on stage to show you all. They've also continued to work hard on their Book Art producing some beautiful pieces and really taking their time to make sure it's their best work. In English, we've been looking at what a story is and recognising that when we write the name of a person it needs a capital letter. In Maths, we've continued with our work around number bonds using practical equipment to support this. We've had another great week on Year 1 and are looking forward to our last full week in school next week before we break up for Christmas.

PS... A great big Year 1 Thank You to Evania and Elsie's families for donating lovely decorations for our Christmas tree!

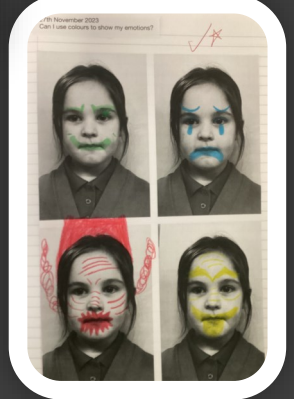
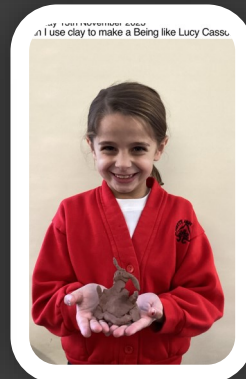
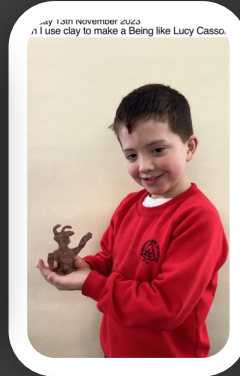
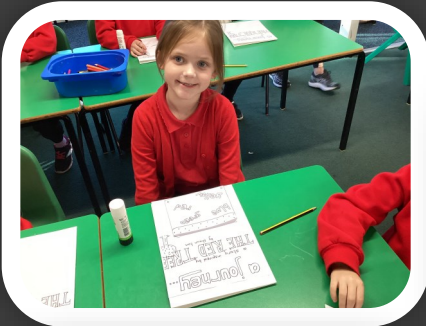
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# What have we been learning?

## Year 2



Year 2 have had a busy week beginning rehearsals for their Christmas play. They have been having fun singing Christmas songs and reciting Christmas poems.

This half term the children have to produce a piece of book art relating to feelings and going on a journey. They have been very creative in starting this piece of work and also doing lovely pieces of writing for the book.

In art the children have been looking at the colour wheel and exploring feelings through colour. They had a look at how different colours can change how things look! They have also completely finished their clay beings and they are all very proud of what they have made.

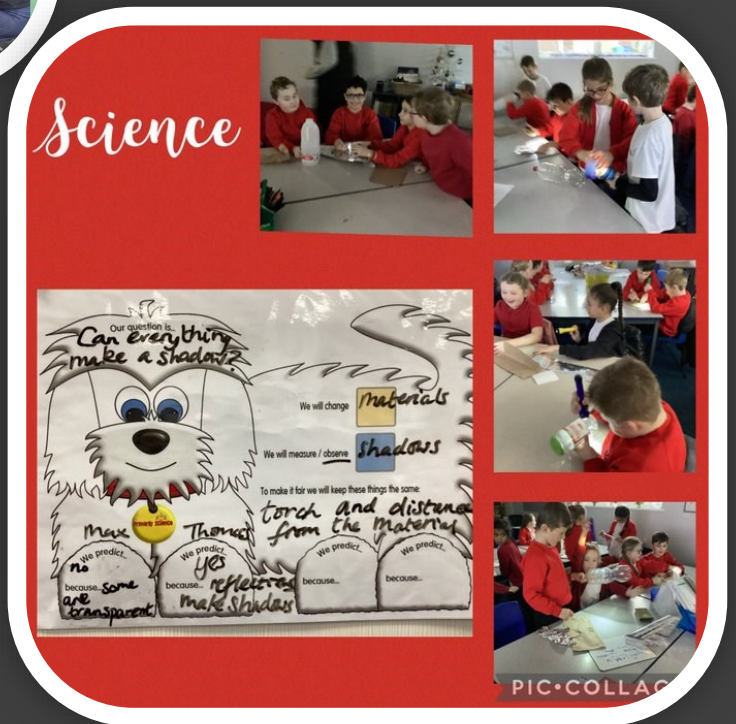
The week was finished off with our weekly signing lesson with Miss Gloria. The children loved learning the signs for all things Christmassy!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 3

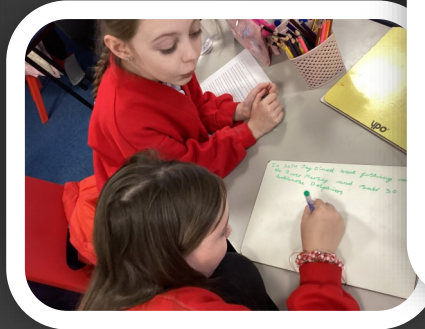
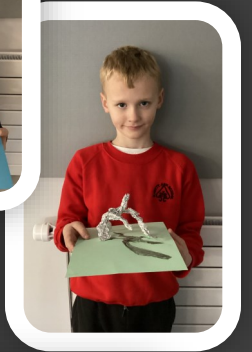
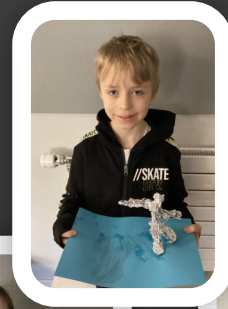
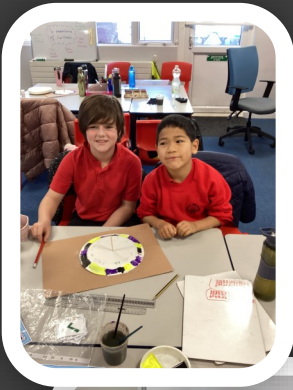


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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



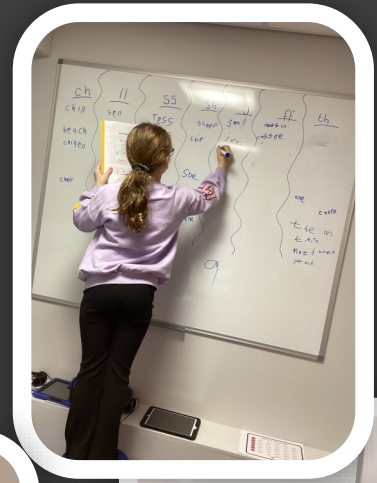
We have had a fun-filled week in Year 4! In English, we have used descriptive language to write about the Liver Buildings and the Albert Dock from the 1900's. The children had to use key features such as fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases, adverbs and similes to ensure their writing was interesting to the reader. In Maths, we have been working hard with our times tables particularly, our 6 and 9 times tables. We made sun dials in Science and tin-foil sculptures in the style of Quentine Blake in Art. This incorporated some elements of Science as we used torches to create shadows from the opaque sculptures and then drew these shadows onto card. We decorated our class Christmas tree and we had an elf from the North Pole visit our class on Friday to help to keep an eye on us. We called him Elfie. We are also in full swing of practicing our Christmas play and can't wait to perform for our Parents and Carers.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



What an amazing week we have had in Year 4! In English, we continued writing descriptions of the Albert Dock from 1900. The children also started looking at the poem 'The Magic Box'. They annotated it and had a go at re-wording some of the verses. The children have continued working on their multiplication in Maths and most of them are now working on their 7 times tables. The children had their last forest school session on Tuesday. They enjoyed finishing their Christmas decorations and playing hide and seek. The children have also been busy practicing the Christmas play and can't wait to perform it to parents and carers next week.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



It's been a thoroughly enjoyable week, as always, in Year 5! We have explored stories with a moral and enjoyed the Matt Haig book, *The Truth Pixie*. It is the tale of a pixie who cannot tell any lies and the repercussions that may come along with that. The children described the characters and also used drama to analyse their feelings. In Maths, the children have finished off work to do with addition and subtraction and also began recapping on multiples. This will really help when we get to column multiplication and bus stop division. We have also taken the time to explore some significant people who have suffered with their mental health. The children also recapped on some of the main religions of the world and, if I'm being honest, really impressed me with their memory of what they have explored in the past - especially from last year's lessons on Hinduism. This year, we will be learning about Buddhism! We have also begun Christmas play prep and have been practising the Grinch!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



What a week as always - I feel I could write this every week and probably do as there is so much happening in school! We went on a trip to the Albert Dock this week with Year 6 to investigate slavery at the Maritime and Slavery Museum. It is always a very enlightening trip and really brings to life everything we have been studying the past term. We enjoyed having lunch with a view on the docks and also got to explore the museum of Liverpool which welcomed us in with an 18 foot Santa that used to live in Blacklers Department store (or so I am told). In English, we explored how we could write our own story with a moral and what our characters may be. In Maths, we have begun revisiting Multiples and will get onto Factors next week! The children have worked ever so hard and finished the week off with a mega chess tournament during our last session of chess with Mr Steele! However, I believe we will get some more sessions of chess in the Summer term! Epic!

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# What have we been learning? Year 6



Two things have been immediately obvious in our class this week. Firstly, how many good actors we have! Pupils were happy to volunteer for different parts in our poetry Christmas poetry performance and everyone has been giving our practice sessions full effort and attention. It bodes well for our show which is less than two weeks away now. Secondly, it turns out that we have a really wonderful level of artistic enjoyment and ability in our class across the board. We've done three sessions this week, in order to really encourage the development of their techniques in sketching, charcoal shading and watercolour painting. The children used art from the Kingdom of Benin as their stimulus initially and then looked at other examples of African art to inspire their colour work. I was quite taken aback by how vibrant the results were. It's not all happiness and light however, as my lessons on calculating complex percentages in Maths went down like a bowl of warm sick and I think I may have squandered any build up of good feeling between myself and the pupils forever. I'm not worried though - soon it will all click into place and all will be forgiven!

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# What have we been learning? Year 6



We've had such an interesting week this week. As I write this, we've only just returned from our trip into town to visit the Albert Dock, the Maritime Museum and the Museum of Liverpool Life. The children thoroughly enjoyed the trip and their behaviour was excellent as usual. Some of them found the exhibits in the Slavery part of the museum very emotional, seeing real shackles from the period, including ones used for children, amongst other things. Other parts were more about fun than history - the karaoke room and the video game exhibit were very popular of course!

Also this week, we started to examine the Buddhist faith and we deepened our understanding of percentages. Oh how the children love percentages. It might come in handy during the sales after Christmas though!

Have a great weekend everyone.

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 1



It has been one action packed week in KS1 DRB, We have continued with our 'Christmas Story' and identified who the characters are in the story and what they were doing on each scene. We thoroughly enjoyed getting into roles and wearing our costumes. Our favourite scene is when the three wise men went on a very long journey to Bethlehem, we got our camels and travelled around the school field! We've also got creative and made our very own mini nativity scene to help us remember the characters.

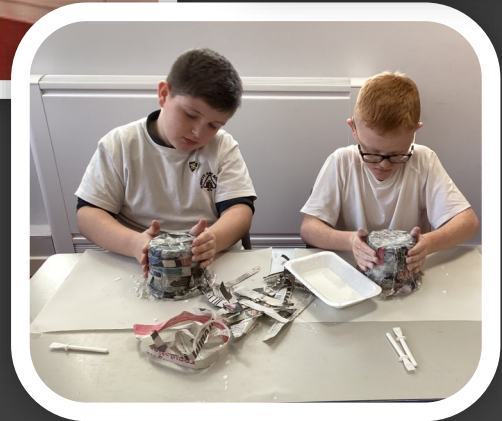
For maths, we've carried on with number recognition, counting forwards and backwards and for computing we have been learning how to change the text font, size and colour.

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 2



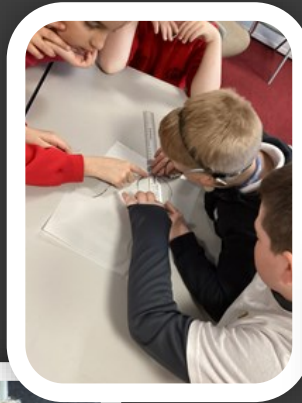
From Christmas crafts to conjunctions – it's all been happening in KS2 DRB this week! There is so much going on in school we are never still for long, but we have found our sewing sessions to be the perfect excuse to relax, unwind and have a good old catch up! In English, we have had fun creating signed, written and spoken sentences using a range of different conjunctions – we all enjoyed taking our turn on the 'hot seat' to share our ideas. This week we also started making our Christmas pots from newspaper and glue – they are beginning to take shape and we are looking forward to painting and decorating them. Of course, we have also started to find out what we are doing in the Christmas production – we are looking forward to rehearsals next week!

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 2



Another busy week draws to a close in KS2 DRB. The weather has been chilly and we made our first tiny snowman of the season! We have spent lots of time in Christmas rehearsals, learning Christmas songs and poems.

We have combined our maths lessons with Christmas crafts. We have been learning all about how to measure the diameter of a circle so we could make lids for our Christmas pots. It was quite a tricky process because we had to decide how many extra centimetres were needed to make rims for the lids. As always, we have kept our key skills up to date - we never get fed up of multiplication!

Year 5 and Year 6 pupils had a fantastic trip to the Slavery Museum in Liverpool and we saw lots of exhibits and artefacts that made us think once again about all we had discovered about enslaved people. Many of us said it would be a good to take our families to the Museum over the holidays so we could show them too.

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# Attendance

## 1/12/23



Class	Attendance
Reception	92.4%
Year 1	94.8%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	89.5%
Year 4	97.4%
Year 5	88.2%
Year 6	95.8%

Whole school attendance this week **93.7%**

Class attendance winners **Year 2 97.5%**

Attendance has been patchy this week due to some bugs going round.

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**MAKING MONEY  
MAKE SENSE**



Do you need help or advice with:

<b>Money management</b>	<b>Maximising income</b>
<b>Budgeting</b>	<b>Welfare benefits</b>
<b>Banks/credit options</b>	<b>Energy efficiency</b>
<b>Housing</b>	



**We can offer advice and support that is  
free, independent and confidential.**



**Signs of a Rainbow CIC**

will be at Knotty Ash Community Hub

Tuesday afternoon—1.00 —3.00 pm

Wednesday morning 9.30—11.30 am

Please contact Ruth Carson on 2284222 to make  
an appointment

or complete a Googlform [https://forms.gle/  
cbwKstUAtnk15F3M7](https://forms.gle/cbwKstUAtnk15F3M7)

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# Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

[www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool](http://www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool)

You will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Summer break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/summer-haf-holiday-activities-food-2023/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

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It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

**Other illnesses** Follow this advice for other illnesses:

### **Coughs and colds**

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

### **High temperature**

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

### **Chickenpox**

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

### **Cold sores**

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or to share things like cups and towels.

### **Conjunctivitis**

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#).

Get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

### **COVID-19**

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

### **Ear infection**

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

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## Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough, there's no need to keep them off school. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

## Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice but tie hair back. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

## Impetigo

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.

Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups .

## Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

## Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

## Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

## Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

## Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms.

Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

## Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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