



# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 21st MARCH 2025

Loving Learning Together



# Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been an especially good week for Y3 and Y4, who had a brilliant day trip to Calderstones Park and the Storybarn as part of their Stone Age History topic. They learnt about the Calder Stones and even had a go at moving their own, they went foraging, made cave art and listened to stories. And of course, they were super ambassadors for Knotty Ash too! Thanks to Miss Kerr and the other staff for organising.



On Friday, everyone wore odd socks to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. It's an important opportunity for us to find out more about Down Syndrome and celebrate our special friendships in school. [Home - World Down Syndrome Day](#)

Finally, as well as the lovely sunshine, my week was brightened by a visit from Hattie(y1) who's teachers were super-proud of her because she'd had a whole conversation in BSL with Miss Gloria—well done Hattie!

Best wishes for a lovely weekend, Miss Clements



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### We Need You to be a Parent Governor

You may have seen an email from school asking for Parent Governors. We have two vacancies to join our friendly governing board, who meet once every 6 weeks to hear about school developments, ask questions and offer suggestions. There are documents to read, and it is a commitment but it's very rewarding and interesting. If you'd like a chat to find out more, please pop into school or give me a ring.

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This month, at Knotty Ash Primary School we've extended our partnership with Zero Food Waste. We are now hosting events in the school hall on a Saturday and Sunday evening.

Bags of food need to be booked in advance (see below for how to do this.) It's not a food bank; it's saving food from landfill :)

We are really pleased to be able to help with this good cause, but rest assured we are also working hard to make sure the school site is safe and there is minimal disruption to the local community.

### HOW TO BOOK BAGS

- Send us a message via messenger at 7am on the day you want to collect, bookings before 7am are not accepted.
- If there is more than 1 event that evening, please specify the event you wish to attend.
- All bags are allocated on a 1st come, 1st served basis in the order we receive messages.
- Please only send 1 message, someone will always reply, if you message multiple times you will lose your place.
- If you are allocated a bag, it will be ready for collection at 10pm.
- Please only request 1 bag per household per 7 day period.



By working in partnership, saving surplus food & building community: great things can happen!

### SATURDAY EVENTS

11 - 12pm  
Open Event - No booking required  
St Hilda's Church, Stuart Avenue, L25 ONG

12 - 1pm  
Open Event - No booking required  
Methodist Centre, Atherton Street, Prescot, L34 5QN

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Elm Hall Drive Methodist Church, Elm Hall Drive, L18 1LF

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Knotty Ash Primary School, Thomas Lane, L14 5NX

By working in partnership, saving surplus food & building community: great things can happen!

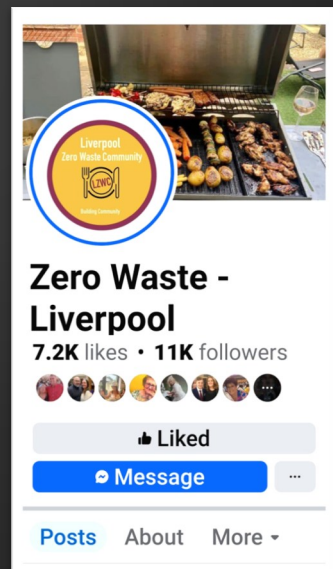
### SUNDAY EVENTS

6pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
The Place To Be, Eastern Avenue, L24 2SX

10pm  
Bagged Event - Bookings open at 7am  
Knotty Ash Primary School, Thomas Lane, L14 5NX

Everyone is welcome and everything we distribute is free

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# What have we been learning?

## Nursery



This week has been beautiful and sunny so we have been lots of outdoor play and we even had PE outdoors on the all-Weather pitch. We practised skills using the quoits - rolling, throwing and catching them .

We had Stay and Play this week and lots of our family members came into nursery to play with us and to find out what we enjoy doing in Nursery. They built models with us, played games with us and read stories with us. We loved having them all in class!

We have been reading stories all about aliens this week , we have been designing and painting our own aliens and we wrote a plan for a story we are going to write together all about aliens . In maths we have been making repeating patterns and when Fred the frog made some repeating pattern which were wrong, we helped to correct his mistakes. We also made repeating patterns with our bodies - clapping tapping etc.

In phonics we learned all about P and we listened to Fred the Frog doing lots of Fred Talking .

We learned all about rockets and how they move we did some science experiments with our pneumatic rocker and a balloon rocket on a string.

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# What have we been learning? Reception



Reception began the week with some St Patrick's Day celebrations! We had a singalong session with Mr Hall and we also did some Irish Dancing in the hall.

We have looked at the Story "Pirates Love Underpants" in our literacy and have enjoyed acting out the story and we have written some beautiful sentences.

In numeracy, the children have been exploring numbers bigger than 10 and they have been trying hard to write these numbers too.

We also looked at the changing seasons and the first signs of spring.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 1



This week the children have been looking at adding numbers within 20 in Maths. It has been a tricky concept; however, the children have worked hard and are growing in increasing confidence when answering questions. In English, the children have begun using all their knowledge of Antarctica to write a fact file. In History, the children learnt about another explorer called Felicity Aston. They enjoyed learning about her journey to the South Pole and compared it to the journey of Captain Scott. In Geography, the children began to explore the 7 continents of the world. They really enjoyed the catchy song they learnt to help them to remember all of the continents. We ended the week celebrating World Down Syndrome Day by reading the story, This is Me by George Webster. We've had a lovely week in Year 1!

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# What have we been learning? Year 2



Hello from Year 2! As we steadily approach the Easter break, there's steam escaping from the top of the children's pencils! Fresh from the excitement of the British Science Week Assembly in which the children learned about the scientific breakthroughs that led to manned flight, we've got straight back into our money studies in Maths, compound and complex sentences in English and Ramadan and Eid in R.E. We've also looked at rock and roll rhythms in Music; the children listened to Little Richard sing 'Lucille' and reflected on how the strong beat pioneered by those early rockers is reflected in a lot of the music they listen to today. As ever, I'm hugely impressed by the hard-working attitude and diligence shown by all of the children in my class. They certainly earn their Friday biscuits, that's for sure!

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# What have we been learning? Year 3



In English we have been analysing The Stone Age Boy story in preparation for writing our own last week. On Friday we went in search of magic pebbles and planned our stories including some of the things we learnt last week when we immersed ourselves in the stone age and what we learnt from Raine at Calderstones on Tuesday. In Maths we have been continuing to measure height and length and to convert units of measure. In Computing the children looked at using filters to create a particular look; personally we wouldn't mind looking ten years younger.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



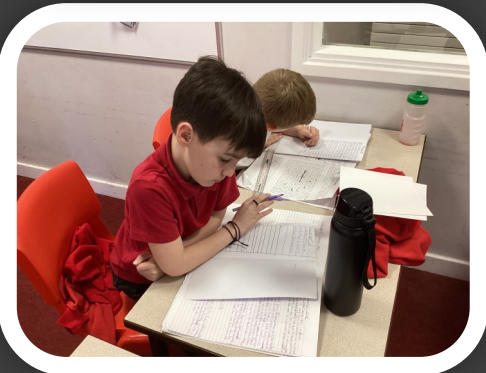
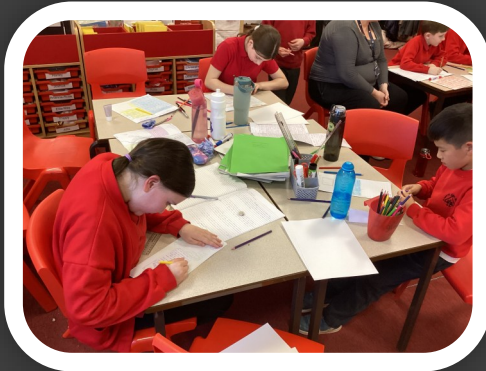
Year 4 have had a fantastic week! The highlight was definitely our trip to Calderstones Park to learn about The Stone Age. The children had a great time doing activities such as quizzes and reading stories. This has helped support our planning in English to write our own Stone Age story! The class finished their planning on Friday, ready to draft write next week. In maths we have started our new topic of fractions exploring the whole and counting beyond 1.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



This week has been great! The children started it with Forest School and then continued their Flag Football lessons. The children have loved learning about American Football and have shown such enthusiasm for it! In English, we finished poems based on the Nazi occupation of Poland and also drew in the style of LS Lowry using actual scenes from that invasion. We also finished colouring and illustrations our Irena Sendler Biographies. We have completed some immense work. At the end of the week, taking inspiration from John Hemingway who passed away this week, we wrote a recount as an RAF pilot. In Maths, the children smashed adding fractions and adding mixed number fractions. What a week!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 6



Year 6 have had really impressed everyone this week with their attitude and hard work we have got so much work done! They have been in very focused completing mock SATs questions, revising and learning new topics. In maths, we have been looking at algebra and they impressed themselves writing expressions, simplifying and substituting using counters to represent unknown values. In English, we have been looking at creating a persuasive travel brochure of Warsaw linked to our WW2 topic. We interviewed some residents (Ms Hunter's brother and partner) and researched information about the city before started writing our brochures. In PE, year 6 are loving learning lacrosse and have developed their scooping, overarm and underarm shots and this week focused on passing on the move and shooting. We also celebrated St Patrick's day on Monday with some lovely tunes from Mr Hall! Keep up the hard work year 6 it's all paying off!

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 1



We have had lots of fun in the DRB this week.

Our younger pupils have made some chocolate lion cakes and children were able to tell us all which chocolate they liked best. Once we had all understood how to sign what we do like, the children were shown how to sign 'don't like'. We have continued to enjoy our Lion Hunt story and had lots of fun exploring the newly introduced vocabulary on a visit to the Forest School on our very own Lion Hunt

Our KS1 pupils have continued to explore prepositions and have applied their knowledge of 'in' 'on' and 'under' in practical situations both in class and in the Forest School. We have enjoyed improving our number skills and have been learning our sight words and spellings.

We hope you have had a chance to see all the photographs sent on Seesaw and are very much looking forward to seeing how the children get on with the challenge we have set them!

Have a great weekend.

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 2



It's been a super busy but fun week for Junior DRB! In Maths, the children have been getting to grips with 2D shapes, learning all about their properties like sides, vertices, and lines of symmetry. They had a great time identifying different shapes and figuring out how they all fit together.

In Inclusive Curriculum, the children stepped back in time to the Stone Age. They explored the tools and weapons early humans used, learning why and how they were made. It was fascinating to see them understand how these simple tools shaped the more advanced ones we use today, giving them a real sense of history and how things have evolved.

To top off the week, the children took on an awesome computing project. They created storyboards, made their own characters from plasticine, and then brought everything to life using Stop Motion animation. They worked hard on each step, and the final animations were impressive! The kids really showed their creativity, and it was amazing to see their ideas come together. All in all, it was a week full of learning, teamwork, and creativity—everyone had a blast!

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# Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	89.6%
Year 1	96.3%
Year 2	97.0%
Year 3	99.3%
Year 4	92.8%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	93.9%

Whole school attendance this week **95.1%**

Class attendance winners **Year 3 99.3%**

**Congratulations to Year 3—what amazing attendance!**

Remember, every child should be in school every day, unless they are too ill. For support, give us a call!

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# Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

DAYS

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

#### PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

#### MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

#### SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

#### ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account - their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week - and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

#### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

#### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

#### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

#### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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# ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

## PROTECTING PRIVATE AND PERSONAL INFORMATION ONLINE

ISSUE 2

### PROTECTING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

In today's digital age, it is more important than ever that children are learning how to protect their personal information online. Remind children that before sharing their information, they should ask themselves the following:

- Do I know this person?
- Is the site secure? (Look for a  in the web browser)
- Am I sharing any private details? (Birthday, school, address)

By following this process, children build a routine that protects their personal information.



### TOP ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR CHILDREN:

Help your child build smart online habits with these key tips:

- **Check privacy settings** – Only friends should see their posts.
- **Never share personal details** – No addresses, phone numbers, or school names.
- **Use strong passwords** – Mix letters, numbers, and symbols.
- **Only accept real friends** – Don't add strangers online.
- **Think before posting** – Photos and comments stay online forever.

### APP SPOTLIGHT - INSTAGRAM



This week's app spotlight is **Instagram**. Instagram is popular for sharing pictures and videos, but as a parent, it's important to know what to monitor if your child is using it. Without guidance, children could be exposed to harmful content, strangers, or pressure to post things they don't fully understand.

- Instagram requires users to be **at least 13**.
- Make sure your child's account is set to private.
- Regularly check who is following them; they should only connect with people they know.
- Keep up with what they are posting.

Scan the QR code to learn more:





# Who's Who?

## Leadership Team

**Miss Clements** Headteacher

**Mr England** Deputy Headteacher & SENDCo

**Ms Sweeney** Head of Deaf Resource Base

**Mrs O'Hanlon** Forest School and Mental Health Lead

**Mrs Carson** School Business Manager

## Teachers

**Mrs Davies** Nursery

**Mrs England** Reception

**Mrs Nugent** Year 1

**Mr Houghton** Year 2

**Mrs O'Hanlon/Mrs Cartwright** Year 3

**Miss Kerr** Year 4

**Mr Hall** Year 5

**Miss Hunter** Year 6

**Mrs Woods** DRB 1

**Mrs Rigg** DRB 2

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# Term Dates and Events

Tuesday 11th March	Deputy Lord Lieutenant visit to Y5 and Y6
17th—21st March	Neurodiversity Week
Tuesday 18th March	Y3 trip to Calderstones
Wednesday 19th March	Y4 trip to Calderstones
Friday 4th April	End of term

Term dates for this year and next year are available on the school website:

[School Term Dates and Inset Days – Knotty Ash Primary School](#)

PLEASE NOTE:

SUMMER TERM ENDS ON FRIDAY 18TH JULY.

Not Tuesday 22nd July as previously advised.

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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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# JOIN OUR FRIENDS OF BRIGHT PARK VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY

Come and be a part of developing and maintaining the park and its programmes.

## Get Involved With:

- Park Maintenance
- Educational Activities
- Event Organising
- Administration
- Holiday Clubs
- Fundraising



**Come visit us at:**

Bright Park,  
81 Thomas Lane,  
Knotty Ash, L14 5NS



**REGISTER NOW**



0151 903 9488



connect@brightpark.co.uk

# Pack your child a **HEALTHY LUNCH BOX**



Choose a variety of foods from each food group

Fruit



Vegetables



Dairy



Wholegrains



Lean meat  
& alternatives



A Healthy Lunch Box



MAKE WATER  
YOUR DRINK



PACK ICE DRINKS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
COOL



USE A THERMOS  
TO KEEP FOOD  
WARM



NSW  
GOVERNMENT | Health

This resource was developed and designed by e4 Health Practitioner Services, Western Sydney Local Health District, with contributions by South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and Western Districts Local Health District.

[60 kids' lunchbox recipes | BBC Good Food](#)

[School packed lunch inspiration | BBC Good Food](#)

[Healthy packed lunches - British Nutrition Foundation](#)

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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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