



Dear Parents,

13th January 2022

Information Letter 3- Spring Term 2021 – 2022

Poetry Update

In our recent Ofsted, the inspector noted that we are developing our pupils' appreciation of poetry. We have made great in-roads with this improvement point, including the poetry workshops offered to pupils last year by Spoz. We are once again inviting Spoz into school to work with our KS2 pupils on the next phase: PREPARATION FOR A POETRY SLAM! Here is some information about poetry slams from Spoz himself...

Poetry Slam Workshops Days (KS2, KS3 and KS4)

"So what is this 'poetry slam' thing?" I hear you all asking. Well ... it's a bit of a gimmick I guess. It's kind of like 'X-Factor' but with poetry instead of singing. It was invented by Marc Smith in Chicago in the eighties and has become very popular all over the world since then. I got involved in the Midlands poetry slam scene in 2003.

For me, poetry starts at 'the page' and then progresses to 'the stage'. I believe that this adds another level of appeal for young people. Reading or performing a poem out loud brings the work alive and for young people, it relates their work to other artistic genres like music and rap. Frankly, whatever gets young people reading, writing and appreciating any form of poetry is great by me!

We are looking forward to Spoz' visit and to see some of our pupils perform at the Midlands Poetry Slam later this year. The school will fund the cost of these poetry workshops.

Individual and Small Group Music Tuition

We have had lots of interest in peripatetic music tuition for pupils. Mrs Cross will be telephoning parents with further information next week so that we can commence lessons shortly.

Parking

Please park considerately at the beginning and end of day. Be aware of any dropped curbs ensuring that these are fully accessible to our neighbours near to school. This morning, we were sent a photograph of a car blocking the entrance to one of the local resident's driveway!

Curriculum Information Session for Parents

Thank you for your feedback regarding the Curriculum Information Session for Parents held on Wednesday 12th January. Mrs Marshall led the meeting for Willow parents. She shared information about how to help children with early reading and writing. For parents who were unable to attend Mrs Marshall has uploaded resources on both the school website and Seesaw for Willow Class.

A reminder that the RSE presentation shared with parents at our last Curriculum afternoon in October, can be viewed on the school website: [RSE | Norton Juxta Kempsey \(nortonprimary.worcs.sch.uk\)](https://www.nortonprimary.worcs.sch.uk)

Whole School Communication

As a result of the whole school questionnaire in October, we have implemented the following suggestions:

- Repeated news items on information letters shown in blue
- Hazel parents to exit blue gate at the end of the day



- More advanced notice of dates (please see calendar on the school website)
- Reintroduction of individual music tuition

Please note that all information letters can be found on the school website:
[Letters to Parents | Norton Juxta Kempsey \(nortonprimary.worcs.sch.uk\)](https://www.nortonprimary.worcs.sch.uk)

Ofsted Report

Norton Juxta Kempsey CE Primary continues to be a GOOD school following the Ofsted inspection in November. The Ofsted Report has been uploaded onto the school website: www.nortonprimary.worcs.sch.uk/ofsted-reports.

Spring Term Covid Procedures

These procedures will be reviewed weekly.

1. Face coverings will continue to be worn by staff during the start and end of day routines
2. Staff will continue to do twice weekly lateral flow tests
3. Pupils will mix in key stage bubbles at break-times
4. Pupils will gather on the playground in key stage 'bubbles' at the start of the day
5. Parents will collect pupils directly from the classrooms at the end of the school day and use the 'COVID' one-way system (Yellow dots)
6. Staff will be sanitizing all shared equipment or putting it into quarantine for 48 hours
7. The library and school office 'waiting room' will remain closed
8. Reduced visitors on site

DFE Guidance-Changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.

Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from **Tuesday 11 January**. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JDean'.

Mrs Dean
Headteacher