



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

7th May 2021


PUSHED FOR TIME? QUICK SUMMARY:


- **Ease of Reading** – Follow the instructions below to find out how to make documents easier for you to read in Windows 10. There is also a “Read Aloud” function if you open this newsletter via Microsoft Edge.
- **Covid-19 Testing** – All adults in Devon are being encouraged to take a simple lateral flow test twice weekly. Get your supply of test kits delivered to your home or from a local pharmacy taking part in the Pharmacy Collect Scheme.
- **Test and Trace Payments for Parents** – If you need to take time off work to self-isolate or care for your child who has been asked to self-isolate and you cannot work from home, you may be able to claim a support payment. Speak to your local council for details (list of councils below).
- **CBeebies Website** – click here for links to communication advice and resources [Communicating: learning area - CBeebies - BBC](#)
- **Hollow Lane Club** – Please read the attachments.
- **Orthotics Clinics** – Opening again soon at Bidwell Brook and the Hex. Call 01803 217761 to register a place.
- **The Ottery Larder** – Open and available to *all* families across Devon who would like to collect free food to save it from going to waste/landfill. Based in Ottery St Mary, contact details and more information attached.
- **National Book Tokens for Schools** – Click on the link to register your vote for Bidwell Brook to win money to purchase new books: [Win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school](#)
- **Lost Property** – Please look at your child’s uniform and bag to check they haven’t come home with someone else’s belongings. Please pop a name label into your child’s uniform to stop clothes from going missing. Thank you.
- **Sunny Weather** – Please send your child/young person into school with a hat or cap.

Dear Parents & Carers,

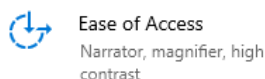
Here’s a few notices and updates for you this week:

Ease of Reading – Did you know there is a setting in Windows 10 called Ease of Access, which will help you to read this newsletter? You can make the text bigger and also brighten your screen. Here’s how:

Step One = click  which you can see in the bottom left-hand side of your screen;

Step Two = a list of icons will appear, choose this one 

Step Three = a new window will open called “Window Settings”.



Step Four = click on

Step Five = you can now change your text size, screen size and also brighten your screen.

You can also use the “Read Aloud” function if you open this newsletter using Microsoft Edge.

Get Tested to Help Keep Devon Safe - As the country moves to the next stage of Covid-19 restrictions easing, every adult in Devon is now being encouraged to take a quick, lateral flow test for coronavirus at least twice a week to help stop the virus spreading. Around one in three people with Covid-19 does not have any symptoms but can pass it on. Regular testing helps identify those who are likely to have the virus, unknowingly and is essential to help stop the virus spreading and to protect one another.



Getting a rapid test is fast and convenient providing a result within the hour. Anyone over 18 years of age can access these tests in Devon, including:

- being tested at one of Devon's many [mobile rapid testing sites](#)
- collecting home test kits from any of Devon's [mobile rapid testing sites](#)
- collecting home test kits from [NHS testing locations and pharmacies that are part of the Pharmacy Collect Scheme](#)
- having [home test kits from the NHS delivered to your home](#)

People with symptoms – a new and continuous cough, high temperature, or change to their usual sense of taste or smell - should still immediately self-isolate and arrange a [PCR test via the NHS](#).

Test and Trace Support Payments - If you or a child needs to self-isolate, you might be able to get a Test and Trace Support payments of £500 if either:

- you have been told to self-isolate because of coronavirus (Covid-19) and you cannot work from home
- you're the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate and you need to take time off work to look after them

You must be employed or self-employed to get the payment. Further details and eligibility can be found [here](#).

Applications for the support payment should be made to your local council:

[Test & Trace Support Payment - East Devon](#)

[Test & Trace Support Payment - Overview - Exeter City Council](#)

[Test and trace support payments - MIDDEVON.GOV.UK](#)

[Test and Trace support payment \(northdevon.gov.uk\)](#)

[Test and Trace Support Payments - South Hams District Council](#)

[Test and Trace Support Payment - Teignbridge District Council](#)

[Torridge District Council](#)

[Test and Trace Support Payments - West Devon Borough Council](#)

CBeebies – There is lots of communication advice and resources available on the CBeebies website for families to look at: [Communicating: learning area - CBeebies - BBC](#)



Hollow Lane Club – Attached is some information from the Hollow Lane Club. The Club is running this Summer but due to Bidwell Brook School needing to close in August due to continuing building works, the Club will be operating off-site.

Orthotics Clinics – Good news! This clinic is now up and running again from Bidwell Brook and the Hex. If your child has any orthotics needs, please ring 01803 217761 and ask for your child to be booked in.

Children will be seen in school but parents are welcome to attend, if you wish. You will need to wear a mask on site. The clinics will run on a Thursday morning between 9 am and 11:30 am.

Ottery Larder – If you travel along the A30 from Exeter towards Dorset, you might be interested in a local initiative based in East Devon to prevent food waste going to landfill. The Ottery Larder collects food from local major supermarkets on a daily basis (Sainsburys, Tesco, Waitrose) and happily provides the food to families who book a shopping slot. Although their base is in East Devon, The Ottery Larder is very happy to open its doors to **any** family across Devon. This is not a Food Bank Service and you only need provide your name, contact tel and email when booking your slot (to control the number of people visiting in the shop at any one time). No questions will be asked why you wish to use this service - it really is open to everyone. Further details including how to book a slot are on the attached flier.



Sunny Weather – Fingers crossed the weather will warm up soon! Please could you send your child or young person into school with a hat or cap to wear when learning or playing outside.

Lost Property – Occasionally we hear about jumpers and items of clothing that have been mislaid. This weekend, please could you have a quick check to make sure all school uniform you have at home belongs to your child. It would be very helpful if you could ensure there is a named label on any items of clothing brought into school. Jumpers, fleeces and cardigans, especially at this time of year, can easily be mislaid and we will be able to reunite them with their correct owner if they are labelled. Thank you very much.

National Book Tokens for Bidwell Brook School – We would like to enter Bidwell Brook School into this competition but need your vote! Please click on this link to register:

[Win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for your school](#)

The closing date for votes is 31st of July 2021. Thank you!

Enjoy your weekend!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jacqui Warne'.

Jacqui Warne
Executive Head

