

Headteacher's news: school closure week 7

As expected, the prime minister announced on Monday that schools will be opening fully from 8 March. All the staff at Rufford Park were delighted to hear this news and are looking forward to full classes of children again. Between now and then, we will be busy planning and preparing for our returning pupils.

The DfE have released operational guidance for schools to use and the teachers have spent time looking at this during teacher meetings this week. There are no new legal obligations for school but the DfE are very clear that attendance will be mandatory and so your child must attend school from the 8 March.

We have two main pieces of work to do before 8 March:

1. Review our health and safety risk assessment and share it with the school community
2. Make the necessary changes to our systems of control

Basically, the systems of control will be covered in our risk assessment and they will cover the actions we will take to 'prevent' and 'respond' to the risk of infection.

There is nothing new that we are going to have to do and school will operate in the same way that it did in the autumn term. However, we must all adjust to the increased numbers of people on the site at drop off and pick up as well as the increased numbers of pupils in school. At all times, we must minimise contact across the school site and maintain social distancing where ever possible and the role that you will play in this will be essential.

I am in the process of drafting a planning strategy for the 8 March full opening of school and will share this with you early next week.

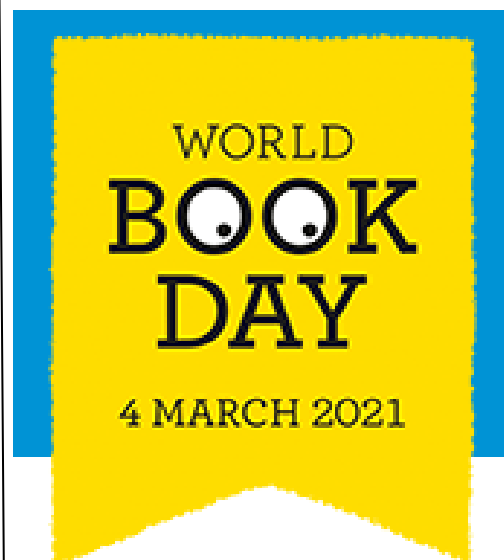
Take care and stay safe.

Please click on your child's class below to read a message from your class teacher and get the links to next week's home learning.

[Nursery](#) [Reception](#) [Y1 Pear](#) [Y1/2 Lime](#) [Y2 Cherry](#)

[Y3 Willow](#) [Y3/4 Cedar](#) [Y4 Beech](#)

[Y5 Oak](#) [Y5/6 Ash](#) [Y6 Maple](#)



Next week, it is World Book Day and in normal times, we would be dressing up, holding competitions, holding author visits and more. The lockdown (and the imminent reopening) means that we are not having a whole school focus. Instead, teachers will be organising activities for their children (in school and at home) and these will vary from class to class. I do hope you are able to take part at home and if you have any questions about what your class is doing, please direct these to your child's teacher.

CONTACT DETAILS and CONSENT - an ongoing reminder:

At the start of every year we ask you to let us know your contact details and provide photo consent for your child. Please let us know if there has been a change to any details we hold on our records.

Dates for the diary

4 March: World Book Day - see above

8 March: School reopening to all

1 April: School closes for the Easter break (note - this is a Thursday).

19 April: School opens for Summer 1