



North Clifton Primary School
Church Lane, North Clifton, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG23 7AP
Tel/Fax: 01522 778609
Head teacher: Ms Anne Batley
E-mail: head@northclifton.notts.sch.uk
office@northclifton.notts.sch.uk
www.northcliftonschool.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports Provider

As you are aware, our sports provider is currently experiencing difficulty in providing a consistent service to school. In the last few weeks they have cancelled last minute, giving school and parents very little notice or time to put in other arrangements. The Governors and I have made the decision to terminate the contract at the end of the Autumn Term. We will look to find an alternative sports provision for the Spring Term.

A reminder, therefore, that there will be no Wake and Shake Sports Club next Wednesday morning as previously advised, and that the After School Sports Club next Wednesday will be the last one.

We are hoping to have news on a 'before' and 'after' school provision very shortly.

Scarlet Fever and Group A Streptococcus Infections

You will be aware of the coverage in the media concerning the increase in cases of both Scarlet Fever and Group A streptococcus infections, also known as Group A strep, strep A or GAS. Group A strep is a common bacteria, which many of us carry in our throats and on our skin. It doesn't always result in illness, but it can cause infections, some mild and some more serious. Attached to this newsletter is a letter for your attention from the UK Health Security providing parental/carer advice and guidance on both these illnesses, and at the end of this letter are some key messages issued by Nottinghamshire County Council.

Dates for Diaries:

- Wednesday 14th December – **no Wake & Shake** Sports Club in the morning – After School Sports Club will be running as usual
- Wednesday 14th December – **Nativity** at the Church starting at **9.30am** and followed by **Mince Pies and Coffee** in The Den
- Tuesday 20th December – **Christmas Dinner**
- Tuesday 20th December – **Children's Christmas Party** (afternoon)
- Wednesday 21st December – last day of term, School closes for Christmas Holidays and reopens to children on Thursday 5th January.

Thank you for your support,

Anne Batley
Executive Head Teacher

Key Messages for Parents/Carers from Nottinghamshire County Council:

Scarlet Fever and Group A Streptococcus Infections

Group A strep (GAS) is a common bacteria which causes a range of infections, including scarlet fever. These infections are usually mild. GAS is spread by close contact with an infected person and can be passed on through coughs and sneezes or from a wound. Invasive group A strep (iGAS) is a rare infection when the bacteria gets into parts of the body where it can cause more serious disease, like the lungs or bloodstream.

There are currently higher than seasonal expected levels of scarlet fever. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting followed by a characteristic red, pinhead rash giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. For more information and advice, please see: [Scarlet fever - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

To help reduce all infections, good hand and respiratory hygiene are important, including:

- Washing hands for 20 seconds with warm water and soap
- Catching coughs and sneezes using tissues – catch it, bin it, kill it
- Keeping away from others when feeling unwell.

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- Your child has a sore throat, fever, chills or muscle aches, but they are getting worse
- Your child is eating much less than normal
- Your child shows signs of dehydration
- Your child has a temperature of 39 degrees C or higher.

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- Your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- There are pauses when your child breathes
- Your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- Your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

For more information, please see: UKHSA Blog [Group A Strep - What you need to know - UK Health Security Agency \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk)
