**Staff news:**

We say farewell to Gill, HCA from St Luke’s who has recently retired, and we wish her well for the future. Joining the team is Julie who is an HCA who we welcome. The adult team welcome Ena who joins us as a Community Carer and College Support Worker.

**St Luke’s Hospice at Home office move**

After a lot of preparation our Hospice at Home team have moved with the Hospice Community team to new premises away from the Hospice at Astra House, Laindon. We wish the team well in their new surroundings and hope the move has made more space for them.

**Annual leave**

Summer is approaching and we want to make sure that you take your annual leave to get some well earnt time off. Please complete annual leave forms in good time and give to your manager.

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**Recruitment**

We continue to recruit new staff for all teams. Remember that if you recommend someone to us you will benefit from a £150 bonus subject to certain conditions. Many of our current staff have come from staff recommendations so we are always pleased to receive applications from friends and family.

**COVID-19 update**

* **Great news** – we have overall **94%** of our staff who have had their first COVID-19 vaccination and many of you have now had your second vaccine.Thank you everyone.
* Please remember to let us know when and where you have had your 2nd COVID-19 vaccination.
* Following a recent memo to you we have updated our Infection and Prevention control guidelines and have put this on the staff intranet. If you would like a paper copy of the guidelines please ask your manager for this. As a reminder masks are for single use only so please ensure you have sufficient supplies which can be collected from the office.
* The transmission rates in this area remain low. However, with the easing of the restrictions be mindful of adhering to social distancing and maintaining hand washing. It is easy to become complacent and we must not do that.

**HANDS, FACE, SPACE AND FRESH AIR**

**Staff Training**

Many of you are now logging on to our staff intranet for update training. In addition to this we have added some conditions training which you may like to look at. To assist with the online training as we appreciate not everyone has the facility to access the training at home, we have purchased some tablets that can be accessed via the management team to enable you to complete the training at home.

**May**

* **National Walking Month** encourages people to walk more throughout May. Initiatives include, Walk to Work Week and Walk to School Week.
* **5th May - Global Hand Hygiene Day:** In addition to helping prevent the transmission of COVID-19, clean your hands calls on health facilities to prevent health care-associated sepsis through hand hygiene and infection prevention and control (IPC) action. Sepsis is estimated to affect more than 30 million patients every year worldwide.
* **10th to 16th May is mental health awareness week:** to raise awareness and promote better mental health

**Thank you again everyone for all that you do**

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