



Autumn Term 05/12/20

Head Teacher Newsletter



Happy Safe Aspirations

Today sees us entering another period of national lockdown. This one is slightly different to the previous one as schools have been asked to remain open for all children rather than just for children of key workers. We do appreciate that some families are very anxious about the current situation and we would urge that parents contact school if they have any specific concerns or questions that we can help address.

All staff in school are continuing to provide the education needed to ensure that all children are making progress (including trying to plug any gaps created by the previous lockdown), while also dealing with an ever-changing list of guidelines and advice from the government. Please be patient with staff if you feel that what they are informing you or asking you to do is not quite, what you thought it would be. Staff have their own concerns and anxieties and are doing everything within their power to keep children learning, and children and families as safe as they can.

Parents' Evening

You should all have received information about a telephone parents evening next week. If you have not yet received this information, please contact your children class teacher.



Informing parents of positive cases in school

Many local primary and secondary schools have already seen bubbles or entire year groups closing, with children being sent home, due to a positive case within the school community. Unfortunately, due to increasing infection rates locally, it is probably only a matter of time before we are asked by the Department for Education or Public Health England to send children home due to a confirmed positive case. As a head teacher I have to follow all government guidelines around making these decisions and I can not make the decision for myself about which information I pass on to parents.

I will not be passing on information about staff or children that have been asked to self isolate because they have been in touch with somebody who has tested positive. Similarly I can not share information with parents about children or staff members who have been asked to take a test.

Can I please ask that all parents take other families' increased anxieties about the current situation into consideration when they discuss rumours about cases. If in any doubt about something you have heard please contact school and we will clarify information where we are able.

I will inform parents immediately once we have confirmation of a positive case that directly affects whether children need to be sent home from school because they need to self isolate.

This advice is being updated regularly and I will inform all parents if any of the above information changes.

Tempest Photographs

We were due to have Tempest Photography in next week to take individual children's photographs. Unfortunately, due to the national lockdown and new regulations we have had to cancel this appointment.

We understand how frustrating this will be for parents as we normally time this visit from the photographer to coincide with Christmas so that parents can send family members a photograph of their children as a gift.

We have rescheduled the visit for Monday, January 25th.





Children in Need

Friday the 13th November (next week) is Children in Need. Obviously, we will not be able to take part in this event in quite the same way as usual but the children would still like to raise money to support this worthy cause. Children are asked to come to school wearing odd socks for a donation of £1 to Children in Need. Each classroom will have a container (with a lid) for children to put their donations into directly. Fit Friday will still take place as normal on this day.

Congratulations Bobby Cartlidge 😊😊😊

At the start of the half term holiday, the organisers of the Primary Engineer competition contacted us and informed us that one of our pupils had been selected as a runner up! Bobby Cartlidge from year 2 was selected as a Judges' Highly Commended in their category for the Merseyside and Cheshire region. Well done Bobby, this is a fantastic achievement.

**IF YOU WERE AN
ENGINEER
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?***

Understanding Children & Young People's Mental Health

We have been contacted by an organisation that would like to offer all of our parents the opportunity to undertake a Level 2 qualification in 'Understanding Children & Young People's Mental Health'. This course is **completely free of charge** (although there is an administration charge if people sign up for the course and then drop out without a valid reason). Here is a little bit of detail about the course:

The qualification is all question based (there are no written assignments to complete). It will take 6 weeks to complete, taking between 15-30 hours to do so. There is an online platform to complete the qualification, therefore a computer or laptop will be needed. There are 2 workbooks to be completed, with them needing to be submitted at the 3- & 6-week stage. There will be tutor support throughout for any help and guidance.

If you are interested the please watch this video giving more details:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFh3rTZkJSA>

I have attached a flyer with this newsletter with more information for anyone who is interested. The link below will allow you to apply directly for your place.

https://formstack.io/TyZSZjXRWndR4L6rW7HXEppqL8_drGsA9XWS0F15Xgj56D1utKVODIduJM61p1nhvKDiCRpWm-PtGF4plqj0Pg

We appreciate that as we cannot allow parents into the school building, that there may be messages that need passing on another way. Please telephone or email the school with anything that you would like us to be made aware of. If you do not get a reply within a few days please try again as there are so many people messaging the office at the moment that some may be missed.

Stay safe

Mrs Whitehead 😊



Dates for your diary:

Monday 9th November 2020

Tuesday 10th November 2020

Wednesday 11th November 2020

Thursday 12th November 2020

Friday 13th November 2020

Friday 18th December 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Reception and KS1 Parents' Evening calls

Reception and KS1 Parents' Evening calls

KS2 Parents' Evening calls

KS2 Parents' Evening calls

KS2 Parents' Evening calls

Last day of autumn term

Children back in school