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14th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Harvest

Next week is our Harvest Festival however, we cannot do things as we normally would. Year 2 are going to lead us in a song and everyone else will be taking part in Harvest activities in their class bubbles across the week. As part of our Harvest fundraising the children have asked that we collect food for the East Durham Trust Food Bank. It would be wonderful if you could send one or two items for our collection such as tins, bags of pasta, washing up liquid, or some fruit or vegetables. Please send these in with your child before Friday next week when the collection will be picked up by the Trust.

Year Group Assembly

We are having a great deal of trouble with our IT systems in school at the moment – broadband seems to have gone into lockdown! Year 2 have produced a fabulous Rights Respecting assembly and Year 4 are in the middle of producing a fantastic Maths assembly. These will be on the website and Facebook as soon as possible so please keep looking out for them.

Halloween and School Uniform

Next Friday is our final non-uniform day. Children are welcome to come to school in (appropriate) Halloween costumes. Due to COVID please do not send your child with additional items such as pumpkin bags or any additional accessories.

After the October half term, we hope to see everyone back in full school uniform, including wearing full PE kit on PE days. If you are, experiencing any difficulties providing your child with school uniform contact Annie Docherty Pastoral Manager or myself and we will help.

Health and Safety

We continue to have many concerns about parking and traffic on both sites at drop off and pick up times, especially along Moor Lane. Please take great care and look out for children – there have been several near misses this week yet again. I have been in touch with the council and police and they will be in attendance when possible to monitor the situation.

Head Teacher: Mrs Marie-Louise Binks B.Ed. Hons NPQH • **Chair of Governors:** Mrs R Wilson



Poppies

This year we will not be selling poppies – the children will be making their own poppy in their bubble. We will still be collecting for the Royal British Legion when we return to school.

COVID 19 Information

We return to school Tuesday 3rd November, as Monday 2nd November is a Teacher Training day. I will have the school mobile phone with me throughout half term. If there are any concerns, infections, isolations etc over half term please get in touch and I will get back to you as soon as possible with school advice. We follow very strict guidance from public health England and the Local Authority when responding to COVID. The school mobile number is 07342075478.

Christmas

It is far too early to discuss this yet (!) but we will be following our Poverty Proofing guidance and children will be making a card for their classmates rather than you having to send any in for the whole class. We would not be able to distribute cards this year anyway during the COVID situation. We will also be holding Christmas sock day again this year following this very successful event last year. There will therefore not be a Christmas Jumper day again – of course, there will be a Party Day where your child can wear their Christmas Jumpers. More details to follow...

Regards

Marie Louise Binks

Mrs Marie-Louise Binks
Head Teacher