

Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

This will be my last newsletter of the half term so I would just like to say many thanks for all your support over the last half term. It has been difficult with staff and children self isolating and things changing on a day to day basis, but I want you to know that we, the staff, really appreciate all your help and support.

I hope you are able to enjoy your half term as a family together and we look forward to seeing you all on your return.

Very best wishes.

Gill Finney,
Headteacher.



Home School Reading

I appreciate times are different at the moment and that you are receiving a dojo message to say that your child has read in school rather than everyone writing in the Reading diaries that the children have. However, the staff are finding it increasingly difficult to know whether a child needs books changing if nothing has been written in the diary by you to say that they have practised.

Therefore, could I please ask that you comment in the diary every time you hear your child read so that staff are aware of how many times your child is reading at home and how well they are doing. This is particularly essential at the moment as attainment in Reading across the school has dropped quite a great deal. Because of this, we will be using more reading incentives in school to encourage reading both here and at home and we would appreciate your support with this please. Reading is an essential life skill. Grandparents can also help with this even if they are unable to visit, one of our Governors suggested that maybe they would love to hear their grandchildren read via zoom or Skype.

Dates For Your Diary

19th Oct - Individual photographs - am
Week commencing 19th Oct - Parents Evenings via
telephone
23rd Oct—Half Term
11th Dec - Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper
Day
14th Dec - Christmas Concert of some sort on video -
more details to follow
16th Dec - Christmas parties in own bubbles!
18th Dec—Break up for Christmas holiday
8th Feb - Arts Week
1st March Book Week
10th May - Year 6 SATs Week
7th June - Phonics Screening Week - Year 1
7th June - Multiplication Test - Year 4

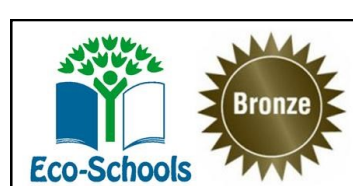
All dates made are PROVISIONAL due to Covid-19.

Please check dates on every newsletter as dates are
always added. New dates will be in red.

Harvest Donations

Thank you to everyone for your very kind Harvest
Donations which we are going to deliver to Christ
Church Thornton Food Bank.

With the money, they will be able to purchase the food
they need to feed to the needy in Thornton.



Merit Winners—Well done Everyone!

Friday 9th October 2020

Reception— Rhys Hadfield and Thomas Sharples

Year 1— Charlie Clement-Burford and Harry Longworth

Year 2— Thea Hughes and Henry Martin

Year 3 – Ellery Gardner and Jasmine Bramley

Year 4— Summer Wilmot and Daniel Reed

Year 5— Layla Ryder and George Robinson

Year 6— Maisy Legge and Nathan Hart

Headteacher Award - Reception Class

Friday 16th October 2020

Reception— Reuben Kirby and River Ashton

Year 1— Ellie Chapman and Brody Hatch

Year 2— Rebecca Mell and Ben Dickinson

Year 3— Poppy Heyes and Sofia Greenaway

Year 4— Amelia Parsons and Leon Lewis

Year 5— Jacob Wilson and Emma Chieffo

Year 6— Nathan Shotton and Sarah Armstrong

Headteacher Award— Beatrix Ewart, Jethro Esler, Sofia Greenaway, Lukas Cross, Treasure Igjebor, Otis Leah, Freddie James, Kieran Colwell-Graham

Local Inspirational People

We are keen and always have been to ensure that our children are inspired by people who have overcome difficulties or worked extremely hard to become successful. If you are one of these people, or you know of anyone who is and who would be willing to talk to our children via a Zoom call, then please contact either myself or Mr Leah at school, where we would be more than happy to arrange this.

Many thanks.



Secondary School and Reception on-line Applications

Parents are now able to access the on-line admission forms for High school and Reception places for September 2021. This can be accessed through www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. Closing dates for secondary applications—31st October 2020
Closing dates for Reception places—15th January 2021.

Gaming

I'm so sorry to have to write about this again so soon after the last one and I'm sure some of you are already saying 'Oh no, not again!' but gaming is taking over some of the children's lives in school. It is the only thing they can talk about from the minute they enter school in the morning until they leave school at night, going home to play their online games again and so the cycle continues.

As I am aware, I can only advise you on which games are appropriate and anything of a 14 rating and above should not be being played on by children aged 4 to 11. This is because the content of the games is not deemed to be suitable for younger children and often they have difficulty processing the subject matter.

This is happening on a regular basis in school at the moment and I can tell you that many hours of teaching and learning time has been wasted already this half term sorting out gaming issues from the previous evening. School in general cannot afford this time as children need to be focusing on their learning and improving and building on the skills they so readily had in March.

So...

Please help us in our quest to build on these skills and develop them so that your child is reaching their full potential once again.

Please limit their time spent on a gaming device .

Please ensure you are aware of what is happening during this play and who your child is engaging with.

Please ensure that your child is off a gaming device AT LEAST one hour before bedtime so that they have a restful sleep.

Please support our school with this.



Here is a message that has been sent to all schools from the Lancashire

Resilience Forum Which issues Guidance on Faith and Community Events

The Lancashire Resilience Forum (LRF) has issued guidance on restrictions around upcoming faith and community events for the remainder of 2020 due to coronavirus.

The restrictions relate to upcoming events including: Prophet Muhammad's birthdate (28/29 October), Halloween (31 October), Bonfire celebrations (5 - 7 November), Remembrance Sunday (8 November), Diwali (14 November), Hanukkah (10 – 18 December) and the switching on of Christmas lights.

In line with national restrictions on numbers at events and our strong advice in Lancashire to avoid households mixing, the decision has been taken to prohibit large-scale events to mark these occasions in Lancashire.

Angie Ridgwell, Chair of the Lancashire Resilience Forum, said:

"We know these are important events for everyone in our community and we're sorry that we have to do this. We haven't taken these decisions lightly and are really grateful for your support. By following this guidance we will all limit the spread of coronavirus and help keep people safe. While Lancashire continues to experience a rapid increase of coronavirus cases that puts the county among the highest level of transmissions in the country, large scale community events create too great a risk for the public. It is vital that we all work together to follow these regulations and avoid the temptation to break the rules on visiting other people's homes or gardens to celebrate these events putting yourself and others at risk. We are working with various faith and business groups as well as charitable and community organisations – such as the British Legion – to see whether alternative arrangements can be made to mark these occasions."

Unfortunately, trick or treating will not be permitted this year as it would increase the risk of household transmissions.

Councillor David Henderson, Leader of Wyre Council comments:

"This year we would like to encourage our residents to mark these occasions in a different way, to keep our community safe. On Remembrance Sunday the usual commemorative services will not be taking place in Wyre and we suggest that residents instead join us from their homes in a doorstep two minute silence at 11am. Wreaths can also be laid from 1 November to help spread out visitors to our memorial sites."

If you are planning an event or have any questions relating to events in your area please contact us on 01253 891000.

Please note the restrictions listed in this document and please let's work together to keep our school and local community safe.

Many thanks for your support.