



Cliddesden Primary School
Headteacher's Newsletter
Autumn Term Issue 1
4 September 2020

Dear parents, carers and members of our school community

It was lovely to see the children back in school yesterday. I would like to say thank you for being so organised for drop-off and pick up, following the guidelines I sent out, so diligently.

At the end of the day parents of Willow and Beech classes can come into the lower part of the playground. Please adhere to social distancing and leave as soon as you have picked up your children.

I am not permitted to do whole school assemblies currently, so on Thursday instead I visited each class to talk to the children about how the school day is now organised, to catch up with them to see what they had been up to over the summer and how they were feeling. This is a big change for some but they seem to be dealing with it very well.

I was pleased to see that none of the children have asked to wear a face mask. There has been so much confusion over this issue, but the guidelines in primary schools are that children don't require them. This is partly due to WHO advice that children under 11 don't require them but also that they are likely to find them uncomfortable and may repeatedly touch them. If government advice changes, we will let you know.

The policy in school for adults regarding face masks and PPE is that staff who are working one to one in close proximity may wear a face mask if they wish, and that when administering first aid or attending to personal care, PPE must be worn. HC3S and lunchtime staff will also wear face masks when serving food. When parents are visiting the school by appointment they should wear a face mask. When staff are meeting in close proximity to each other or a parent they may wear a face mask.

As ever we will continue to promote good attendance in school. Obviously, these are different times. If your child was showing symptoms of a cold, **we used to say** to bring them in and we will see how they are and administer 'Calpol' if required. However, **now we say** that you should initially keep them off as a precaution until you are sure of their symptoms. If the cold symptoms correspond with Covid-19 symptoms (see below) then you should arrange a test and isolate until the results, return to school if negative or follow the isolation period requirements if positive. You need to notify us of any results. This procedure would be the same for any other member of your household. In the event of a suspected case or positive case I need to contact Public Health England.

The same principle applies for staff. In the event that I have staff off and not enough cover available we may have to close the school for that specific year group and switch to remote learning. I am very much hoping we will not need to do this and it would be a last resort. However, please be prepared.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

Please refer to this NHS link for further details. This is also on the home page of our website.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

On a brighter note we hope to be able to restart some after-school clubs by the end of the month. They will be limited to one bubble a session. I will keep you informed of what we can offer in a few weeks' time.

One of the busiest times at school now is lunchtime as only one bubble can use the dining hall at a time and tables need to be disinfected between sittings. Staffing during this time is fully stretched and staff still legally and quite rightly need a 'minimum' amount of time for a break. We are looking for volunteers to help out with Willow Class at lunchtime when the new children start. It would be for about an hour maximum and mainly outdoors. If you can spare the time and are interested, please contact the office.

I hope you have a good weekend and we look forward to our first full week on Monday.

Kenneth Davies
Headteacher

NOTICES FROM THE OFFICE

Medications in school

If your child requires medicines in school (inhaler, antihistamine) then please ensure these are sent to the school office in the first instance and that you complete, sign and return the necessary paperwork.

School lunch payment

Please remember that school lunches are £2.40 per day and should be paid for online.

If you need help registering to pay online, please contact the school office.

Year 3 children's parents will be contacted next week with details of how to register to pay online.

To view diary dates and class pages, find out about our curriculum, read all about our events in school, view your child's homework tasks, learn how to stay safe on the internet and much more please visit our school website www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk

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