



Cliddesden Primary School
Headteacher's Newsletter
Autumn Term Issue 3
2 October 2020

Dear parents, carers and members of our school community

I feel that the children have really settled back into school fully now and have adjusted so well to the 'new normal'. There is some lovely work being completed and lots of smiling faces around the school. Our new Foundation Stage children are settled and growing in confidence every day. The teachers are doing an amazing job as are all the staff and volunteers.

We had a very productive INSET day on Monday and now all the staff are up to date with their training for Fire Safety and Safeguarding. Please note our next INSET day is Friday 23rd October 2020.

On the school website we now have a dedicated COVID-19 Information page. This contains all current advice and procedures. We will continue to update this page when we gain any further guidance or information from the government or HCC.

We also have a Remote Learning page. This explains what the school has in place should we have to close a bubble (class) or if there was a lockdown. We are in the process of adding videos to explain Google Classrooms and other links which we hope to complete by the end of next week.

Junior Leadership

I am pleased to announce we now have a new Junior Leadership Team. Our Head Girl is Darcey and Head Boy is Morgan. Their deputies are Ashritha and Ewan. It was a very difficult choice to make as all the children who applied did very well and I would like to thank them all for applying. They will all have learned essential skills that will help them in later life.

Walk to School Week

Unfortunately, the original dates in May were cancelled but the paperwork had all been printed. Walk to School Week is now planned for 5-9 October 2020. Due to the staggered starts and staff needing to be on site we cannot offer a walking bus from the village this year. If parents want to organise something themselves, please let us know.

Harvest

Due to the restrictions we have currently we cannot have our usual annual harvest sale. However, we will still be having a Virtual Harvest Assembly produced by Reverend Stephen and would like to donate to charity.

Therefore, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable goods (tins and packets) which we will donate to Spotlight UK and Basingstoke Foodbank.

We will be collecting from Friday 9 October until Thursday 15 October 2020. There will be a table outside the school entrance to place your donations. A flyer reminding you will be sent out next week.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Today we sent you a copy of our draft statutory RSE policy. RSE is now a statutory subject in **all** schools. We are obliged to allow parents a consultation period before implementing the policy. Please take time to read the email and read the policy which has been approved by the Governing Body.

Small price increase agreed for Hampshire school meals

School meals continue to be the best option at lunchtime for our pupils to help them flourish. They provide a nutritious balanced diet with plenty of choice from a range of menus. HC3S school meals meet the Department for Education's rules for healthy school lunches and the Soil Association Food for Life Served Here standards, which mean at least 75% of our meals are prepared from scratch.

Menus also adhere to the Hyperactive Children's Support Group's recommendations to remove over 70 additives and colourings that could affect children's behaviour.

The price of school lunches will increase to **£2.50** per meal for children in Chestnut and Oak classes from **1 November 2020**. This increase is being introduced to meet the rising cost of providing school meals. Children eligible for free school meals will continue to benefit.

School meals are free to all children in Willow and Beech classes saving parents the time and cost of preparing a packed lunch for their child each day.

NHS Track and Trace App

The school has a QR Code for visitors to the school to use. You will need to download the NHS app. The code is located at the main entrance to school.

Flu Vaccinations

Next week we will be sending out a further letter reminding parents about flu vaccinations for their children. We strongly advise that parents have their children vaccinated this autumn. The school nurse will be coming to school on 15th October 2020. Registration for this is all on line.

Data Collection Sheets and Medical Questionnaires

Thank you to the vast majority of our families who have returned the paperwork. If you have yet to do so, we need to know that you have checked the data we hold about your child and that emergency contacts are up to date. Please check the information, sign and date the data collection sheet, complete the medical questionnaire in case there are any new details required and return both sheets to the school office as soon as possible.

Shoebox Christmas Appeal

Please do all you can over the next 3 weekends to gather suitable shoeboxes and contents ready to bring these into school on Monday 19 October 2020.

It would be wonderful to have at least 1 box from each family to send to children who are far less fortunate than ourselves. Details are attached and one leaflet per family should be coming home with your child today. You can ask for further copies if needed.

A message from Open Sight

Open Sight is calling for all children in England to have a mandatory pre-school eye test as currently, around 12% began their education journey with an undiagnosed sight problem. In a similar way to that where parents are encouraged to take their children for their pre-school vaccinations, having an eye test would help alleviate unnecessary struggles at school due to sight issues.

There is a short video that Open Sight has produced to raise awareness of the importance of children's eye tests. Unfortunately we had a technical hitch with this but we will send it out as soon as we can.

Together, we can make a difference to ensure no child is missing out on all that learning has to offer.

Home Reading (A reminder)

I cannot stress more the importance of hearing your child read at home, whatever year group they are in and ask that you support the school by finding the time (and as a parent I know this can be tricky!) to hear your children read regularly.

You may find this link useful

<https://www.fortheteachers.org/friday-five-ways-a-parent-can-help-a-child-learn-to-read/>

I wish you all a happy and safe weekend.

Kenneth Davies
Headteacher

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

Cliddesden Primary School, Cliddesden, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG25 2QU

Email: adminoffice@cliddesden.hants.sch.uk

Website: www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk.