



# Wolsingham Primary Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Volume 8

[www.wolsingham-pri.durham.sch.uk](http://www.wolsingham-pri.durham.sch.uk)

## **We made it!**

A huge thank you to all of our children, staff and parents for working together to keep each other safe. We have managed to make it to half term without any positive Covid-19 cases in our school. Our children and staff are extremely tired as they have worked incredibly hard across the half term to catch up on the learning missed during the lockdown – well done to them all! We anticipate that during the second half of the autumn term it will be even more important to ensure we stay safe and look after one another. We hope that you all have a lovely, relaxing half term.

## **Attending School Covid Tests**

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of children attending school. If a member of a household has developed Covid-19 symptoms and is waiting for the result of a test, then the entire household should self-isolate. Upon a positive result, the rest of the household should self-isolate for 14 days from the day that the first person in the household developed symptoms. Upon a negative test result, all members of the household can return to work/school.

However, if a member of a household has been contacted by track and trace or feel that they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 i.e. within one metre for longer than 15 minutes within the last 2 days then people you live with do not need to self-isolate if you do not have symptoms i.e. if a parent has had contact and has no symptoms and the child hasn't had contact, then the child is able to come to school.

## **Home Learning**

As part of their statutory duties, our Governors are being kept up to date with how the school is running, particularly in the current climate. Upon reviewing the progress of children on their return to school, they felt that it was important that we shared the analysis of the home learning carried out during lockdown. We found that children who only completed some of the activities set (e.g. only maths activities or didn't complete the tasks every day) or who did not access them at all, are further behind in their learning than those children who completed all tasks set. Arithmetic and basic number skills, grammar and sustained writing are areas where children made the least amount of progress and therefore these are the areas that we have been making a priority in school. We also noticed that some of our children had been over supported in their learning at home and therefore are struggling to be independent in the classroom and lack the stamina to complete their work.

Bearing this in mind, we would like to remind parents that it is important to ensure that children complete all work set whilst they are at home including homework and that the best way to support your child in their learning is to help them with technical issues to ensure they can gain access to the work and to help them to understand the instructions given – please encourage your child to complete the work by themselves, which will provide the teacher with a clear picture of what they are able to do and how they are progressing. Children will be reminded in school that it is okay to get things wrong and not be able to do things straight away and that this is an important part of learning.

## **Reception Access to Breakfast Club and After School Club**

As our Reception children have now settled into school and staff are more confident with new procedures, from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, there will be 4 spaces available for Reception children at Breakfast Club and After School Club. Attendance must be pre-booked by the Friday of the week before the care is needed and will be offered on a first come first served basis each week.

## **Wrap Around Care Payments**

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, we will no longer be invoicing parents on a monthly basis for wrap around care services. ParentPay will be updated each Monday morning with the sessions that have been used the previous week and we ask that parents log into ParentPay on the Monday afternoon/evening of each week to make a payment. Thank you.

## Outdoor PE Kits

Just a reminder to parents that the majority of our PE sessions must take place outdoors and therefore it is important that children have jogging trousers and a jumper as part of their PE kit to ensure that they are warm when taking part. Thank you.

## Hockey Sessions

Durham Dales Hockey Club are holding sessions for Key Stage 2 children on Sundays 3-4pm at Wolsingham Sports Hall. The first session is free and sessions cost £2 each thereafter. For enquires or more information, please contact Kate Thompson on 07876424845.

## School Crossing Patrol

Please note that there will be no school crossing patrol on Uppertown on the afternoon of Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

## Photograph Competition Team Event

This half term the team event will be a photography competition – promoting well-being and encouraging the children to think positively at this time, as well as using some photography skills. The aim of the task is for each child to take photographs of the outside world relating to the words they are given. The children will need to take at least three images, one for each word and can use people or objects around them or go out into the community to capture images to represent their words.

EYFS – family, joy, love

KS1 – happiness, hope, calm

LKS2 – motivation, inspiration, relaxation

UKS2 – courage, ambition, peace

Once the children have taken their photographs, we would like them to upload them to Seesaw or they can be sent via email to [wolsinghamprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:wolsinghamprimary@durhamlearning.net)

The photographs will be gathered together and judged with points awarded to the children's colour teams. The final submission date for photographs is **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**. A collection of the images submitted will be used to create a calendar using each of the words and some of the images for each of the months. Once printed, the calendar will be available to buy.

**E-Safety note:** Children will be reminded by teachers of e-safety rules during this competition, please reinforce these at home.

- Subjects of photos should have given permission to feature in the photo and for their image to be shared.
- The photo should be taken by the child and not taken from the internet as images may be subject to copyright / also known as plagiarism.
- Only appropriate images should be taken.



## Harvest Celebration

Our classes have been busy recording songs and poems and producing some autumn and harvest themed work to share with you. Have a look on our website / Facebook Parent Info page to see what they have been up to. Please note: in order to join our Facebook Info Page you must be a parent of one of our children and you must answer all of the questions in order to be accepted.

*S. Kitching*

Headteacher

## Dates for your diary...

School Closes for Half Term	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
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School re-opens	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November
Deadline for photograph competition entries	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> November