



Newsletter

October 2020

We are now settled back into school and our new routines. The children are engaged and focussed on their learning and making great progress!

Whilst there continues to be some disruption to learning, with a small number of children and/or families being required to isolate for periods of time, children have taken this in their stride and completed some excellent work at home. There is a real sense of purpose which is great to see.

As the National and Local Lockdowns increase restrictions, it's important that we continue to support each other and keep communication channels open. We take a day and week at a time and will keep you up to date with any developments that impact on school. Thank you to all parents who are keeping us informed of any changes in circumstances with regards to Coronavirus. This is vital for all of our wellbeing.

Picking Up

Could we please ask all parents and carers to remember to social distance at picking up time? We understand that these times are busier than morning drop offs as there are more people are waiting, but please keep within government guidelines. All classes have a 15 minute time window (30 mins for Reception) so don't feel you must be there at the very start of the time slot. To reduce the risk of catching or spreading coronavirus, try to keep at least 2 metres apart from people you do not live with. Social distancing is essential to stop the spread of the virus, as it is more likely to spread when people are close together. Where you cannot stay 2 metres apart, it is advised you take extra steps to stay safe such as wearing a face covering.

To minimise numbers of people waiting, please:

- Arrive at the designated gate within the specific time slot. Please avoid arriving **before** or **after** the time slot as this leads to too many people waiting
- Keep social distance from others that are waiting
- Leave the area as soon as your child is collected

Thank you for your support.



Governor Vacancies

We currently have 2 Parent Governor vacancies. Please let the school office know if you are interested in becoming a school governor or would like more information.

Birthdays

Unfortunately, we **cannot** currently accept birthday cakes into school to celebrate children's birthdays. If you would like your child to share something with their classmates on their special day, please send individually wrapped packets of sweets as an alternative. They will be handed to the children to take home at the end of the day.



At a time when it's needed most, we're planning to support **#Hello Yellow** to support young people's mental health on World Mental Health Day.

On Friday 9th October, we're asking children and staff to wear something **yellow**. This could be some yellow socks, a hat, hair bobble, a top, scarf etc. Children **do not** need to wear their school uniform that day.

Together with #HelloYellow, please help us to show we can look out for each other and feel hopeful about the future, by wearing something yellow and donating £1 to **YoungMinds**. If you feel able to contribute, you can do so via ParentPay next week OR by donating a £1 when you drop off your child on 9th October.

Support for Mental Health

We wanted you to be aware that there are many excellent resources and sources of information to support young people's mental health. We have listed some of them below.

- **MindEd** - a free educational resource from Health Education England on children and young people's mental health.
- **Rise Above** is a website co-created and produced by young people.
- **Every Mind Matters** includes an online tool and email journey which aims to support everyone to feel more confident in taking action to look after their mental health and wellbeing.
- Barnardo's **See, Hear, Respond** programme, focusing on finding and reaching out to vulnerable children around the country who are experiencing negative impacts on their health and wellbeing, as well as those at risk of harm; and are not being seen by statutory agencies.
- **Bereavement UK** and the **Childhood Bereavement Network** provide information and resources to support bereaved pupils, schools and staff.

If you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Class Dojo

A reminder that Class Dojo is still being used to communicate messages/newsletters and to set work for children who must spend a period of time working at home – so please don't delete the app!

If you are not able to access, let us know so that we can help. We don't want you to miss out on important information.

Non-uniform Days

We are temporarily suspending non-uniform/cake days that would normally take place on the first Friday of every month when we are in school. We may still have specific non-uniform days linked to raising money for other charities or school, such as the #HelloYellow day mentioned above.

School Photographs – Tuesday 13th October

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 13th October to take the annual school photographs of children. However, due to the current COVID 19 restrictions, please note the following:

- **ONLY individual children's photographs will be taken.** Siblings cannot have photographs taken together.
- Younger, pre-school siblings cannot be brought into school for photographs.
- When having their photography taken, children will be standing to avoid any potential virus transmission via chairs.



Feeding Families is a north east charity which helps our local communities where people are in need of food. We are planning to support this vital charity at both Harvest and Christmas this year. If you are able to, please send in any of the items listed below, which will be delivered to the Stanley Foodbank location by Mrs Dubre, to be distributed by Feeding Families.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baked beans• Fruit (tinned)• Ham (tinned)• Carrots (tinned)• Tomatoes (tinned)• Tea• Soup (cup)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sweetcorn (tinned)• Mince / any meats (tinned)• Potatoes (tinned)• Tuna fish (tinned)• Cereal• Jar of fish/meat paste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milk (UHT)• Pasta• Pasta sauce• Biscuits• Rice• Bread (part baked)
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Please send any donations to school with your child by Wednesday 21st October.

COVID 19 Procedures

Please see poster below, entitled 'Can my child go to school today?' which may help to clarify some of the confusion around COVID symptoms in school.

Can my child go to school today?

Do they have any COVID Symptoms?

- **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

Yes
They have a COVID symptom

No
They do not have a COVID symptom

Self Isolate and Book a COVID Test

Book the test online or call 119

All members of the household should stay at home until the test result is known.*

Do they have diarrhoea or vomiting?

No
They do not have diarrhoea or vomiting

Yes
They have diarrhoea or vomiting

Do they feel unwell?

It is important that parents keep children at home when they are unwell

No
They do not feel unwell

Yes
They feel unwell

Send to School

So long as your child feels well, has not been told to self-isolate and there are no other household members with COVID symptoms, it is OK for them to attend school.

Keep at Home

- Remain off school until they feel well enough to return. Seek medical help from a GP if needed (or 111 if your surgery is closed).
- Remain off school until at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting. A COVID test is not required for diarrhoea and vomiting without the other symptoms above.

* Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for advice on when to stop isolating and return to school after a positive or negative test.

School holidays 2020-2021

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
October half term	Friday 23 rd October 2020	Monday 2 nd November 2020
Training Day	Friday 27 th November 2020	Tuesday 1 st December 2021
Christmas 2020	Friday 18 th December 2020	Monday 4 th January 2021
Spring half term	Friday 12 th February 2021	Monday 22 nd February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 th March 2021	Monday 12 th April 2021
May Day 2021	Friday 30 th April 2021	Tuesday 4 th May 2021
Summer half term 2021	Thursday 27 th May 2021	Monday 7 th June 2021
Summer 2021	Friday 16 th July 2021	TBC