



Newsletter

March 2021

We were delighted to see everyone back in school on Monday! As well as lots of smiling, happy faces skipping and running into school, there were also (understandably) a few nervous tummies. It was another big change for both children and parents and it will have been emotional for everyone in different ways. However, as always, the children quickly impressed us with how well they settled back into routines and have focused on their learning. It has been an absolute pleasure to watch children playing with their friends again and hearing the familiar 'buzz' throughout school.

We are committed to supporting the wellbeing of all our children and have focussed on team work and building relationships this week in school. If at any point you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please do let us know so that we can offer support.

Despite a positive start, we were soon reminded that Coronavirus is still circulating when we became aware of a positive case in school. Our Year 6 class are now isolating, in line with government and Local Authority guidance. Parents should be aware that there may still be further disruption as we navigate through the next few weeks and months.

If a whole class needs to isolate, live lessons will be taught remotely and work will be provided. We also have laptops in school that can be loaned to children in these circumstances. Where individual children are required to isolate, work will be provided to match the learning in school. In either case, it is essential that children complete the work and/or attend live lessons so that they feel confident returning to school and we can help reduce any potential gaps in learning.

As always, thank you to all our families for your support during this time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or queries.

World Down Syndrome Day - #LotsOfSocks Campaign

World Down Syndrome Day is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. On this day, many people around the world organise and participate in activities and events to raise public awareness and create a single global voice advocating for the rights, inclusion and wellbeing of people with Down syndrome.

We plan to raise awareness in school on **Monday 22nd March** by supporting the #LotsOfSocks Campaign. We are asking everyone to come to school in mis-matched socks - the more brightly coloured the better! During the day, we'll learn more about Down Syndrome, read stories and create art work to be displayed in the windows. We look forward to seeing lots of interesting socks!!





We are supporting Comic Relief in school on **Friday 19th March**. This will be a non-school uniform day and we're encouraging everyone to wear something red (this could simply be a pair of socks, head band, hat etc). We'll also be having fun during the day, with a comic relief assault course planned for all children to take part and have a giggle! If you would like to make a donation to Comic Relief, this can be done directly via a link that will be added to ClassDojo next week.

Easter Egg Decorating

It's hard to believe that it's almost Easter and a year since our lives changed dramatically! This year, we're looking forward to decorating eggs with the children in their class bubbles, using eggs and materials provided by school. Please don't send in any materials so we can limit items coming into school.



Financial Support

If you're currently struggling to pay bills, Durham County Council have created a new webpage regarding accessing financial support, specifically for families with children.

It can be found at this address: <http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/25041/Help-with-your-money>

Helping to keep everyone safe

Thank you for keeping **at least 2 metres apart** from people you do not live with in and around the school premises. Thank you also for wearing a **face covering** when picking up and dropping off at school (unless you are exempt). We hope this will further help to keep us safe and keep school open.



Well done Mia and Lilly!!

We are very proud of Mia and Lilly in Year 2, who have raised £180 for the 'Little Princess Trust'. They did this by having their very long hair cut off and also donated their hair to the charity. Their support for Little Princess Trust makes a real difference to children affected by hair loss and also helps to fund vital research into childhood cancers. Well done, Mia and Lilly!



School holidays 2021

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
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	Thursday 2 nd September 2021
Autumn half term	Friday 22 nd October 2021	Monday 1 st November 2021
Training Days Fri 26 th November Monday 29 th November	Thursday 25 th November 2021	Tuesday 30 th November 2021
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 th December 2021	Wednesday 5 th January 2022