



West End Primary School

Newsletter

5 November 2020

Photographs

The children will be getting their photographs taken next week on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November. We will be following our risk assessment and not mixing bubbles, although as siblings are together before and after school there will be no additional risk to any of the children from them having their photographs taken together.



The photographer also has a risk assessment and protocols in place to ensure that the children are not at risk. All children will have an individual photograph and siblings will also have a photograph together. The children will have their photographs taken on the following days:

Monday: All siblings, Beech, Chestnut, Elm and Maple

Tuesday : Apple Nursery, Willow, Holly, Cherry, Hazel, Poplar and Oak

Reception Admissions September 2021



The Northumberland County Council portal for applications for Reception Class places in September 2021 is now open at www.northumberland.gov.uk. Applications for Reception places must be made through the portal, even if your child already attends West End Nursery. The portal is open from now until 15th January. We would normally offer prospective parents visits, but we cannot do that this year.

We have made a short video which has been posted on our Facebook page and our website (www.westend.northumberland.sch) which will give you an idea of what school life is like at West End. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Nursery Admissions September 2021

You may put your child's name down on our waiting list for Nursery admissions at any time. If your child has his/her fourth birthday this academic year, i.e. between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 he/she is eligible for a place at West End Nursery now.

If your child has his/her third birthday this academic year he/she will be eligible for a school nursery place in September 2021. Children turning two this academic year may access provision at West End Pre-school which is located on our site in the nursery building. If you have any questions about our Early Years provision, please give us a call.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We are supporting this worthwhile cause again this year. We are posting pictures of the merchandise we have available on Facebook and our website; we have slap bands, wrist bands, fluorescent poppies and button holes. The British Legion suggests a donation of 50p for each item. If you would like to buy something please send the donation into school in an envelope marked with your child's name and the item you would like to buy. As part of our poverty proofing measures we will only be allowing the children to purchase one item and this will be on a first come first served basis. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee your child a choice of colour. We will not sell poppies but will provide all of the children who would like one with a poppy on Remembrance Day itself.



Children in Need



Children in Need day is on Friday 13th November. We will have a 'come as you like' day when the children can wear whatever they like for school, as long as it is comfortable, warm and appropriate for the weather (we play out come rain or shine). We are aware that we have asked you for a number of donations already this term and do not want to ask again, so please do not feel obliged to send in any money.

If you would like to make a donation to this cause it will, of course, be gratefully received.

House Points

Although our houses cannot meet this term we are still awarding house points for the children's achievements in school. We will keep a running total and when we are able to mix the bubbles again we will reward the house with the most points.



In the meantime we are adding up house points earned in each class and I am delighted to tell you that the class with the most house points in the first half term was Poplar. Mrs. Wilson will talk to them about what reward they would like when they come back to school on Friday. That's something to look forward to.

New Building



We are expecting our new building to arrive and be assembled this weekend! We can't wait to come to school on Monday morning and see it. It will then take a few weeks to complete the inside of the building. We are optimistic that we will be able to move in before the end of term but of course there are no guarantees at the moment. Thank you for your patience, particularly with all of the drop off and pick up changes that we have had to make because of the build. We will keep you posted.

Parent Consultations



Unfortunately, having looked into many options, we have decided that it is not feasible to hold parent consultations this term either in person or virtually. Instead your child's class teacher will send you a message on Class Dojo or Tapestry which will inform you of how your child has settled in to their new class and how they are getting on in the core subjects. You will have an opportunity to respond to this message and we will follow up any specific concerns with you. We will let you know when to expect your message nearer the date. We hope to be able to offer a more normal type of parent consultation in the Spring Term.

Ventilation

The government updated its guidance to schools last week and then again yesterday in preparation for the latest lockdown. One issue you need to be aware of is the expectations around ventilation. Schools are expected to keep all rooms as well ventilated as possible so that the virus does not spread easily. This means that even in the winter months we will need to keep some windows and doors open during the school day.

We will monitor the temperature regularly for the health and safety of both the children and staff but we are advised that 16 degrees Celsius is an acceptable working temperature. With this in mind you may want to make sure your child has a couple of layers under his/her sweatshirt or hoodie on colder days.



Test Results and Isolating

First of all I would like to thank all of the parents who have kept us informed if their child has had a Covid test or has needed to isolate because of contact with a positive case. The school must report to the Public Health team every time a child or member of staff has been tested and the result of the test, it is therefore extremely important that we are kept informed of tests and their results promptly so that we can take action if need be.

If your child has symptoms and you do not get a test your child and all of your household must still isolate for 14 days, so it makes sense to get a test as soon as you can. We are still concerned that some families of children who have been asked to isolate appear not to be keeping their child indoors during the isolation period. By taking your child out when she/he is meant to be isolating you are putting others, including anyone you meet from your own family, at risk. We will only get on top of the virus if we all stick to the rules, so please think of your family, friends and community and follow the isolation rules. Thank you.



A Few Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 7th November

Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th November

Tuesday 10th November

Friday 13th November

Friday 4th December

Monday 7th December

Friday 18th December

Our new building arrives

School photographs

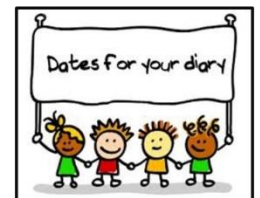
Year 4 Victorian Day

Children in Need day

Our new building is completed! (Fingers crossed)

Flu immunisations

Term ends 2:00pm



Yours sincerely

Jane Bushell

Mrs J Bushell

Headteacher