St. Thomas’ School News

4th September 2020

Events of the Week

Week beginning 28.09.2020

Friday 2nd October

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating harvest festival on Friday 2nd October in a new way. Class 5 are recording a harvest service that will be shown to the rest of the school in their classrooms.

We will still be taking in food donations for the local foodbank. These can be sent into school on Friday. They will be quarantined before sending them to the food bank

Message from the Headteacher

We are continuing to work in new ways under current guidance. Next week we should have all been joining together to celebrate Harvest festival in St. Thomas’ Church. This year we are still going to celebrate harvest and give thanks to God for our food and our wonderful world. Reverend Janet is trying to organise a harvest treasure hunt around the grounds of the Church, so that even though we can’t be in the building, giving thanks in the usual way, we are still able to link with the Church to celebrate this special time of the year.

**Illness**

It is important that everyone understands the guidance around illness.

Earlier this week, every child was given a letter from the NHS about when to get tested.

If a child presents with any of the main three symptoms in school, they will be sent home and asked to follow self-isolation guidance. Siblings of these children will also be sent home in accordance with guidance.

In classes where a child or staff member has shown symptoms and been sent home (or not arrived in school if symptoms develop overnight) letters will be sent to parents informing them of a suspected case. School carries on as normal, unless a positive test result is confirmed.

If a positive test result is confirmed, the school will work with the Local Authority and Public Health to determine close contacts of the positive person. It is at this point that parents will be informed and bubble closures may happen, depending on the outcomes of the track and trace process.

Close contacts are tracked over the 48 hour period before symptoms developed in the positive person.

It is important that parents work with the school to keep us informed of illness and those isolating due to household members showing symptoms.

It is all quite complex, so if you do have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the school and we will answer your questions.

**Parking**

The staggered starts have made it less congested around school. However, there are a small minority of people who continue to park on the corner of Church Street, making it unsafe for pedestrians.

I am sure you would be the first to complain if it was your child injured due to the selfishness of the need to park as close to school as you can!

Please think before you park your car.

**Reading**

Most children will now have reading books. These should come into school every day, so that children can be heard read and their book changed.

Our big focus in school at the moment is catching up on missed education due to lockdown and reading is the priority.

Please support your child by reading with them frequently and by returning your child’s book to school daily.



**Online Learning**

This week all children were given a letter outlining what we will do in the event of a bubble closure. This includes information about Zoom lessons for all classes. Please keep this letter safe. If you don’t have the relevant information or equipment to access online learning and zoom calls, please contact the school office via email. Thank you.

From the office…

**School dinners**

Please order school dinners for next week before midnight on Sunday.

**School Website and School Spider App**

Please refer regularly to our school website for all of the latest news, school calendar of events and weekly newsletter. You do not need to login to the website to see this information.

In addition it is essential that you download the school spider app from your app store. This is how we send quick messages and reminders to all of our parents. Thank you.

**P.E.**

On P.E. days children come to school dressed in their outdoor P.E. kit with trainers on their feet.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class 1 | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| Class 2 | Tuesday and Friday |
| Class 3 | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| Class 4 | Tuesday and Wednesday |
| Class 5 | Wednesday and Friday |

Children with long hair must have it tied back and all jewellery needs to be removed on these days.

**Breakfast & After School Club**

There are places available at both breakfast and after school club. Please enquire at the school office. Thank you.

**Nasal Flu Vaccination Programme**

The Nasal Flu Vaccination Team will be in school on Monday 9th November. The programme is open to children in all year groups this year. Please look out for the link so that you can complete the e-consent to allow your child to receive the vaccination.