

# *Byerley Park Primary School Newsletter*

## *Issue 3*

### *4<sup>th</sup> October 2021*

Welcome to our third newsletter of the year. I cannot believe it is October already! School is very busy but the children have settled really well. The Reception children are getting used to the routines of school life and it is lovely to see how happy they are to come to school. The Year 6 buddies are doing a great job at break and lunchtimes in looking out for them.

Breakfast Club is going from strength to strength and we have 45 children 'on the books'.

Please take some time to read the newsletter. As ever, there is a lot of information on it.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Mrs Pattison.

#### **Internet Matters**

In a world where our lives and those of our children are becoming more and more dependent on technology and the Internet, the website '**Internet Matters**' is a really informative and useful website for parents to get advice and guides on how to keep your child safe online. This website has been recommended by our IT experts and I would strongly advise all parents take a look at this website:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, you'll find a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.

#### **Change of details/personal circumstances**

Please could I remind all parents to let us know of any changes in personal circumstances (e.g. change of address, phone number(s) relationship status, etc.) so that we can keep our records up to date.

It is also important that you notify us of any changes in telephone numbers, just in case we need to contact you during school hours.

We use the text messaging system to notify the main contact person of important events/reminders etc. and this requires the correct up to date mobile phone number of the recipient.

#### **Additional Day in lieu of Bank Holiday for Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Please could all parents note that the additional day in lieu of the Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be taken on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022**. That means that school will break up for the Summer Holidays at the end of school on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Visitors often comment on how smart our children look. Thank you for your support in maintaining our high standards for uniform. Ties form a part of our school uniform and these must be worn for the Autumn and Spring Terms. It is only in the Summer Term when we allow white polo shirts to be worn without ties.

## Parents' Evenings

### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

We have arranged to hold Virtual Parents' Evenings on the above dates, using video software from 'Teachers 2 Parents'. This is the same company that we use to send text messages to you and the same company that we used in the past to book appointments for face to face parents' evenings.

We will send a text **tomorrow morning** to the **first priority** contact number on our text messaging system, inviting you to book an appointment with your child's class teacher. Please note, there will be one appointment per child.

A 'how to guide for Parents evening video' is enclosed with this Newsletter. Please take the time to read this guide prior to your video appointment so that you understand the process.

Each appointment slot will last for 10 minutes, from the time of your appointment. This will consist of a 9 minute meeting between yourself and the class Teacher and 1 minute for the teacher to make any necessary notes from that meeting. A link will be sent to you (by text and email) on the day of your parents' evening, 4 hours before your appointment time, to connect you to the video software. It is advised that you are ready for your appointment about 5 minutes before the required time. If you are late in joining your meeting, you will not get this time back, as the system will automatically cut you off after 9 minutes from the original scheduled appointment time.

This is the same system that we used earlier this year in and we received lots of positive comments about how convenient the process was. If you have any difficulties in booking an appointment, please contact the school office, who will be happy to assist you.



### **Absence due to illness**

Please will you inform the school office by telephone on **the first day** of your child's absence from school due to ill health, by **9.30am**. We do not need a letter following any absence.



### Harvest Assembly and Foodbank Collection



The children in the Infant Department (Reception class, Year 1 and year 2) are busy preparing to perform a short Harvest Assembly for their Parents on the morning of **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October**. Due to Covid restrictions, we must limit the attendance to 2 people per family and adults must wear a face mask when inside school. The Assembly will start at 9.30am and doors will open at 9.20am.

As part of our Harvest Assembly, we will be having a collection of tins, cereal, pasta etc. to be donated to Newton Aycliffe Foodbank. A letter will be sent out to all children later this week giving more information about this.

## Childhood Flu Immunisation Programme – nasal flu vaccine

Staff from the NHS Immunisation Team will be in school on the morning of **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** to administer this year's Nasal Flu Vaccine (by means of nasal drops). The vaccine is available to all children, however, parental consent **MUST** be given beforehand. This vaccine has been offered in school for several years now and it has been effective in reducing the risk of children contracting the flu virus.

An email will be sent to you shortly, via Parentpay, to tell you more about this, together with a letter from the NHS, asking you to complete their **on-line consent** form. Please could I encourage all parents to read this letter and take the appropriate action? Without your consent, your child will **not** be immunised. If you accidentally delete the email, do not worry as the email and letter from the NHS will be stored on your ParentPay Account under the 'communications' tab. You can retrieve this and access the links from within the letter.

### Policy re: sickness and/or diarrhoea

It is that time of year when tummy bugs are prevalent. For clarification, the school policy if a child has sickness and/or diarrhoea is as follows:

**Sickness** – Normally, if your child is sick only once in a 24hr period and does not have diarrhoea, they should remain off school until the following day. If a child is sick more than once within a 24 hour period, they should be kept away from school for **48 hours** after the last episode of sickness.

**Diarrhoea** – If a child passes more than one abnormally loose stool in 24 hours, they should remain away from school for at least **48 hours** after the diarrhoea has stopped.

It is **really important** that these guidelines are followed to reduce the risk of possible spread of infection to other children and staff. If there is an outbreak at school, we will ask you to keep child away from school for 48 hrs after the last episode of sickness. Thank you for your support.

### Birthday Party Invitations



Following a concern raised by a parent, we have decided that the following procedures will be put in place regarding the distribution of Party Invitations:

**Infant Department** (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2). Staff will continue to put invitations in your child's school bag if they are sent into school.

**Junior Department** (Years 3,4,5 & 6)  
Staff will no longer hand out Party Invitations in class. Instead, children must hand out their own invitations outside of the classroom area and outside of lessons.

### Reading Corner



As we all know, there is a lot more to reading than just reading! The tip for this newsletter is:

### ***Be Seen!***

*Make sure your child sees you read.  
Keep books and magazines at easy reach.  
If your child sees you reading, they will want to read too!*