



## Walsden St Peter's Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear parents/carers

It's the end of our second week of term and what a lovely, sunny week it has been! Apologies in advance, but the newsletter is a long one this week; we have quite a bit of information that we do need to share with you all so please keep scrolling!

### MacMillan fundraiser

Sadly, we are unable to safely hold our usual Macmillan Coffee Morning in school this year but are still very keen as a school to contribute to this fantastic cause – so we're going to have a virtual baking competition instead! On Monday, Reception and KS1 will start designing and decorating their own cupcake drawings in school. While KS2 will start designing and decorating their own themed cake drawings in school. They can bring these drawings home to finish off and if your child wishes to take part in the competition, please return the drawing to school (making sure their name is on the back of it) by Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September with a contribution of £1. Winners will be chosen from each class and there will be prizes!



In addition to this, we will also be hosting a family based competition! Bake at home together, but rather than sharing your delicious treats as usual (and before you start demolishing them) we'd like a picture! Send your picture entries along with your child's name to [y4@walsden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:y4@walsden.calderdale.sch.uk)  
As always, any other contributions you'd like to make to Macmillan will be welcomed!

### School drop offs and after school collections



We do understand that staggered start and finish times can be inconvenient for families. However we would be grateful if parents did not arrive at the school gates early as we are trying to avoid congestion around school. If you do have to wait, please wait in a socially distanced line to allow other families to safely pass on the pavement.

Can we also politely ask that once you have collected your child from school could you **please move on and not congregate around the entrance/exit areas.** We do need to keep these free flowing for safety purposes.

Now that we have welcomed all our Reception children into school full time, we need to slightly modify the collection arrangements for the Infants: please could the parents of Year 2 children wait at the Rochdale side of the exit gate; please can Reception parents wait at the Todmorden side of the gate.

Additionally, please could the parents of Year 3 children wait on the Rochdale side of the entrance gate to allow families using the school crossing patrol to pass freely.

Many thanks for your continuing support with getting everyone safely into and from school.



### Hair

If your child has hair that is shoulder length or longer, please can we ask that this be tied back for school. Thank you.

### School dinner money

Just another reminder that dinner money should be paid weekly each Monday in advance; we still have some money coming in late. Please put the payment (cheque or cash) in an envelope and ask your child to give this to his/her class teacher each Monday morning. Thank you for your understanding.

### Latest Advice from Calderdale's public health team.

We have been asked by Calderdale's public health team to pass on the following to all parents and carers:

#### Runny noses and sore throats

*As children return to settings after the prolonged break, colds and similar viral infections are likely to circulate. Children with simple cold symptoms such as runny noses or sore throats **without fever** who would normally have attended school or childcare in other times should not be tested for COVID-19, and can attend the setting if they feel well enough to do so.*

*Anyone with any of the three main symptoms of COVID-19 should stay at home and arrange testing. These symptoms are:*

- *high temperature **and/or***
- *new continuous cough **and/or***
- *loss or change to sense of taste or smell*

#### Testing

*We have been made aware that children with COVID-19 symptoms are being turned away from local test sites as they struggle to cope with demand. Please advise parents/carers to keep trying to book a test for their child, as more tests do become available through the day. If anyone is unable to get a test within the first 5 days of presenting with symptoms, they must self-isolate for 10 days (and other household members for 14 days). Unfortunately, this is a national problem which we have no control over.*

*Please note that unless advised otherwise, only people who present with **any of the three main symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested**. Testing must be conducted within the first 5 days of the onset of symptoms.*

### Home-School blended learning questionnaire

Please find attached a Home-School Learning questionnaire for families to complete. We are currently finalising our home-school blended learning policy and plans to be used if a child, or group of children, are sent home to isolate following close contact with a COVID-19 sufferer. We do appreciate that every family's circumstances are unique and we are trying to put plans in place that can be accessed by everyone. The form can be returned via your child's class teacher or emailed to [office@walsden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@walsden.calderdale.sch.uk) . Thank you.

### All present and correct

It's lovely to see all our Reception children in school full-time now; they are all settling in really well.



### Individual school photographs

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September to take individual portraits. Unfortunately due to our 'bubble' arrangements in school we cannot mix year groups so there will be no family group/sibling photos this year – only individual pupil photos.



### Swimming

Y3 will be having swimming lessons this term. These will be at Shade pool each Tuesday morning from next week, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Please ensure your child brings their swim kit each week; they will need a swimming costume/trunks, towel, goggles (if they want to use them) and bag to carry it in.

### Flu vaccines

All pupils brought home a letter from the Calderdale Immunisation Team this week regarding the flu immunisation programme for school children. If you wish your child to receive this vaccine (it is given as a spray up the nose), please ensure your consent form is returned by the end of next week, 25<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.

### Stars of the week

This week's stars are: Gracie Hamer-Williams, Lacey Walsh, Amelia Pearce, Isabelle Marshall, Connie Halstead and Gabrielle Wright. Well done to them all.



### Lunchtime Awards

Our midday supervisors have chosen: Bertie Waller, Reuben Priestley, Raphael Thomas, Charlie Sutcliffe, Faye McPherson and Lily Jones for their excellent behaviour at lunchtime.

Emma Crowther and Esther Logue