

03.11.2020



Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half term of the year! I trust that you all managed to have a good week, despite the weather at times! To start the term, I just wanted to share some bits and pieces of information that you may find useful.

Reading

Once your child is given a reading book, we expect all children to read 4 times at home each week. Even a few pages each time is fine because with reading, practice makes perfect! We know that this is a big ask but getting the foundations right now means that your children will be super readers as they get older and fly!



Remote Learning

Attached to this letter is your child's 'See Saw' remote learning access code. Simply go to <https://app.seesaw.me> and type in their individual 16 letter code, or scan the QR code to access your child's account. Once in there, we will now allocate a simple weekly task for both Reception and Year 1. Simply read the instructions and 'respond' – your response goes back to the teacher who will comment. This is the platform that we will use in the event of a school or bubble closure, so we are going to use it to send a simple task each week, so that we, you and the children are confident with the platform, should we need to deliver daily lessons through it! Work will be allocated each Friday – to be completed by the following Thursday. Good luck!

OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning Programme)

After Christmas we are commencing our OPAL journey fully – which will transform our playtimes. In order to do this, we ask for your help! Over time, we will have dedicated loose parts, sand, water, gravel, 'wheels' and digging areas for all ages... But we are seeking to create a large mud kitchen area and dressing up areas first. In order to help us... we would love donations of things that you no longer need:

- Wooden, plastic or metal kitchen bowls, utensils, kitchen tools (no knives, forks or sharp objects)
- Any old dressing up clothes that may no longer fit or fun clothes of your own... like hats, waistcoats, shoes!
- Any simple gardening tools... in order to dig in a mud area... hand held trowels, rakes etc – small spades...

All of the areas will be set up so that they are COVID secure, using quarantining of resources etc. Everything sent in will be stored until next term, when we start and redesign playtimes!

Visits to School

Due to the national lockdown, sadly, we are further tightening access to school. We are no longer offering 'walk arounds' for new parents, most meetings will now be digital and if you do need to come in to school, we ask that you please wear a mask. Please also continue to socially distance when bringing and collecting children and do not get within 2m of staff. It really breaks my heart that we have been unable to throw open our doors to you all yet. Neither Year 1 nor Reception parents have had the chance to look around the building yet, unless they have had to come

inside for a brief meeting. I know how important it is for you all to 'get inside' – but to do individual tours with each family would be 52 one to one walk around sessions – which when we are so stretched at the moment due to our 'bubble' arrangements would be impossible. I have previously offered new parents for next year the chance to visit as none of these people have ever met any of us, and haven't been able to visit the 'old school', like most of you did or attend any group open nights, like we had for our current children. I'm sure that you remember how much of a huge decision it was to choose us and how much harder it would have been without a face to face conversation - so I hope that you understand why we had offered these one to one visits... even though they are now suspended until further notice! As soon as restrictions are lifted we will have an open day when you can all come in together and help us to celebrate our lovely school. We, like you, cannot wait for that day.



Movember!

You may notice that some of the male staff (right across our Trust) are taking part in Movember this year! If you would like to support us in raising money for this worthwhile charity, please visit our page by searching for Lingfield Education Trust on the Movember home page to take you to our page <https://uk.movember.com/> or scan the QR code. There will also be a donation bucket in our reception area. Thank you!



Children in Need

This year's Children in Need is on Friday 13th November. We ask that your child comes to school with something spotty to celebrate the day! This can be something as simple as their own clothes – with spotty socks! Throughout the day we will be taking part in lots of fun activities and enjoying being children, thinking about our other children! Any donations that you send in on the day will be sent straight to the Children in Need Charity. Thank you for helping to support such an important cause!

Relationships and Sex Education Consultation

All schools in England, from September 2020 have had to redesign their Relationships and Sex Education curriculum, following new guidance produced by the Department for Education. Our RSE curriculum is embedded within our wider Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme – which is available on our school website (Loving Learning – KS1 and 2) as well as our draft RSE policy (Policies page). This curriculum is based on work from my previous school – which was deemed as exemplary within the Local Authority and used as training materials for other schools, so we are in safe hands! Our curriculum is designed around the following themes and is mapped out from Reception to Year 6:

- Relationships,
- My Body, My Health
- Life Cycles
- Keeping Safe and Looking After Myself
- People Who Help Me
- Feelings and Attitudes
- Mental Wellbeing
- Living in Our World



As part of the DFE changes, schools must share these and invite comments. If you have any questions or comments please email them to school by Friday 27th November – as any comments will be taken to governors the following week. If any questions or comments require a personal answer, I will of course get in touch.

Parents Evening

Just a quick reminder that next Monday is the evening for phone calls from us as a replacement for parents evening. If you returned the slip to request an appointment, you should have now been allocated an approximate time when your class teacher will call. Please remember that even though calls are starting after lunch and going through to 6pm, that time is tight, with a full



class of calls to make. If you and the class teacher feel that you need more time, then they will arrange with you to call at another time once your slot is up so as not to keep the next parents waiting too long! We are always happy to call back another time!

Behaviour Slips

In the last newsletter, we explained about all of the positive rewards that children receive in school. From this half term, we are also introducing a 'Red Slip' system which will be a notification to parents when a child has made a mistake with their behaviour that we want you to know about. These will be issues of a more serious nature such as if a child deliberately hurts someone, swears at someone etc. Thankfully, in our school, these incidents are rare, but we do feel that it is important to share when behaviour is not up to our standard in a more formal manner. You do not need to contact us if you receive a slip unless we note on the slip that we would like you get in touch. Low level behaviours are dealt with in school; children at primary school are learning to 'behave' as well as to read and write, so we generally do not report the small 'nudges' or 'thinking time' that we give children, but if there was anything that you needed to know, we would be in touch via the home-school notebook or a quick call.

And I think that is about it! Details will be sent our regarding our arrangements for our Christmas nativity for Reception parents... we are looking at how we can do this electronically for you... and we are planning a Year 1 'class assembly' too this term. These won't be the same as a 'normal' year, but we'll do our best to make sure that as parents, you don't feel like you are missing out - albeit viewing things through a screen!

Please, take good care and stay safe.

Best regards,



Mr. Mark Dent
Executive Headteacher
Cambrai Primary School

