

Northam Schools' Federation Newsletter.



FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2020

"TO LEARN EVERY DAY, TO HELP EACH OTHER AND TO BE HAPPY".

Headteachers' Update

The Department for Education have issued new guidance for schools as a result of the new national restrictions which came into effect yesterday. As a result of these new directives:

1. Children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. **Parents are advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician** if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education. Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice. **Please contact the school office if your child is, or has been, classified as extremely clinically vulnerable**
2. It is with regret that the extra-curricular clubs which have been on offer at St. Margaret's will not be running for the duration of the new national restrictions. **The Breakfast Club and the after-school child care service provided by CAN Play, will continue as normal.** If you have any queries relating to this then please contact the school office.
3. Staff will be wearing face coverings in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas.

As part of our commitment to enhance the quality of our provision across the Federation, I would appreciate you completing and returning the accompanying questionnaire. Your views and feedback will be used to inform our on-going programme of development. Please could you return the completed questionnaire to the school office via email. If you would like a paper copy then please contact the school office.

With my very best wishes, Mr. Jim Williams (Executive Headteacher)

CHILDREN IN NEED

Children in Need Day is next Friday 13th November. The theme for this year will be 'Five to Thrive'. This is a focus on five ways to enhance wellbeing. Therefore, we will be asking children to 'wear what makes them feel good'. e.g. if football makes them feel good, then they should wear their football kit. If PJs make them feel good, then your child should wear their pyjamas etc. A voluntary donation can be given on Friday but won't be compulsory.

The year 6 school council will be sharing more information with you next week. Due to the current COVID lockdown we will unfortunately not be able to hold a cake sale.

SPORTS CLUBS

We are sorry that we have had to cancel all the before and after sports clubs at St. Margaret's for the remainder of this term. This is due to government advice which came through very late in the day on Wednesday. P.E. will continue as normal during the school day.

LOST COATS

We have a few children across the federation who have lost their coats. Could you take some time this weekend to check your child's uniform to make sure they haven't brought home the wrong item by accident. Thank you.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

This Sunday 8th November is Remembrance Sunday. The federation will be taking part in a remote

Remembrance Day service on Wednesday 11th November and we will hold a 2 minute silence then. Unfortunately we have been unable to sell poppies in school this year but if the children have stick on ones at home they are able to wear them to school.

FLU IMMUNISATION

At this moment in time we are still expecting the Virgin Care team to carry out flu immunisations at St. Margaret's on Friday 13th November. If this changes we will let you know through our text messaging service. We still do not have a date for when the immunisations will take place at St. George's.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEME FOR NEXT WEEK:

Remembrance - Compassion

**"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."**

KEY DATES

Christmas Holiday—Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021 (Children return to school on Monday 4th January 2021)

February Half Term—Monday 15th February 2021 to Friday 19th February 2021

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