



Shanklea Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Helen Brown
B.Ed(Primary)Hons, Dip.(Humanities) NPQH

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Nairn Road, Parkside Chase, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 1RQ

Friday 19th March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Weekly Newsletter

Return to school

It has been a very positive return to school for all of our pupils. They are all looking extremely smart in their Shanklea School uniform and it is wonderful to see their happy faces. Hearing the familiar laughter, chatter and bustle of a full school has been truly wonderful.

During the lockdown period many of the pupils really missed the face to face interaction with their friends so the staff have given them plenty of opportunities to talk and reconnect with each other in school. The daily timetable has included '**wellbeing**' activities which enable the pupils to relax and express how they are feeling.

The pupils are also continuing to access their core areas of learning in reading, writing, maths and phonics (for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils). Every year group also has Topic based learning and this enables the pupils to apply their core areas of learning to other subjects.

We are ensuring that the pupils stay in their year group bubbles and they have been very sensible during the school day.



Drop off and pick up

We appreciate the cooperation of parents and carers with the drop off and pick up arrangements for our pupils.

Please can all adults wear a face mask on the school premises and keep your social distance.

Each morning, if your child is able to walk to their class on their own please say goodbye to them at the gate as this will alleviate congestion in the playground. A member of staff is present at the each of the school gates. **Please do not block the gate entrances** so that other parents/carers can enter and exit the school premises safely and **leave the premises promptly** once you have dropped off or collected your child.

If you are collecting siblings they can be collected at the same time by prior arrangement. Pupils who walk home on their own will be dismissed by their teachers at the school gate.

Despite the success of the walking and scooting to school initiative, we have had a few concerned parents contact me this week about the use of scooters around the school. It is wonderful to see that the children are excited to use their scooters, however, with health and safety in mind please can we ask that that you ensure **children refrain from scooting by the school gates, on school property and surrounding areas**. Thank you in advance for





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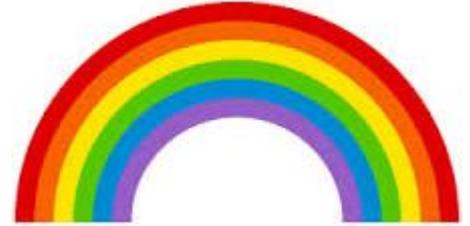
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your co-operation.

Whilst the number of positive Covid-19 cases identified in our communities is reducing, those cases are only a small percentage of the people who potentially have the infection as many will not have any symptoms. It is likely that the number of cases remains relatively high; the infection is still being spread; and we know that cases can escalate very quickly if the conditions are right and people mix unnecessarily, for instance by continuing to hold events such as children's birthday parties. With our school now fully reopened, it is vital that we all continue to do everything we can to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Earlier this week, we forwarded families a letter from the Directors of Public Health and NCC Children's Services with more information.



The Government has outlined the roadmap out of lockdown, but the current 'stay at home' rules are not due to be relaxed until 29th March at the earliest. This **means no indoor mixing of households**, unless you are in a single person household support bubble, or a childcare bubble. For further details on household bubbles, please see www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household.

We have had increasing reports of Shanklea pupils gathering in groups outside of school hours in local parks and we would like to remind you that this is still illegal and risks financial penalties being issued by the Police. While it may not sound risky for pupils to mix outside of school in groups, the level of risk is much higher than during the school day when they are socially distanced, wearing masks, and using hand sanitiser regularly.

We therefore ask that you ensure you, and your children are aware of the current rules and guidance, and that you know where they are at all times. You can only leave your home for essential shopping, or for exercise. You can exercise with your household or support bubble, or you can meet with one person from outside your household. Please continue to maintain social distancing at all times, including when exercising, and when dropping off and collecting your children from school.

If you or someone in your household develops symptoms, please arrange a Covid test for that person, and isolate your whole household immediately. If the result is positive, the household must isolate for 10 full days. If the result is negative, you can stop isolating.



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Miss Robson** on the safe arrival of her baby boy, 71b 14 oz.



Attendance

The whole school attendance for last week was **98.3%**. This is an amazing achievement. - Huge **congratulations** to all our children and families -please keep up the good work.





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Half-term Holidays

School will **close** at the end of the school day on **Friday 26th March** and will **reopen** on **Monday 12th April 2021**.

Reading Research

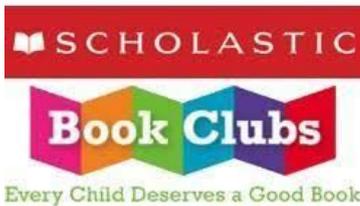
Did you know that turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can double the chances of a child becoming good at reading?

It's so brilliantly simple and can help children's literacy so much that we want to shout it from the rooftops!



Extensive global research shows just how effective this is. Based on an academic study of 2,350 children, 34% became good readers with schooling alone. But when exposed to 30 minutes a week of subtitled film songs, that proportion more than doubled to 70%. There are lots of studies about the benefits of subtitles. This is just one!

Scholastic Books - reminder



There are **only 3 days left to order** from our latest **Scholastic Book Club**.

Just go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/shanklea-county/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and place your order.

Every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club will earn **20p for our school** in Scholastic Rewards.

Red Nose Day

Friday 19th March is **Comic Relief day** and Shanklea has entered into the fun as usual. We'll share more news about our exciting day in our next newsletter.



School meals are back



Don't forget to pre-order your child's school lunches on the School Grid online booking system.

The School Grid enables you to discuss menu choices with your child, pre-order, either daily or in advance and pay for meals.

The system also enables parents and carers to complete details of any food intolerances and/or allergies so that you can be totally confident when ordering a tasty and nutritious meal.





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Shanklea Superstars



Congratulations to the **Shanklea Stars** from last week

Ella A Quinn S Layla M Imogen M Rosie C Roman R Helena N
 Layton G Phoebe S Charlotte H Riley C
 Katie C Tyler C Jessica N Leo A



Please keep in touch if you have any problems or if there is anything we need to know. Home and school working together ensures the best possible outcomes for our children.

Stay safe

Mrs H Brown
 Head Teacher

