

Pegswood Primary School News

<http://www.pegswood.northumberland.sch.uk/website>

Issue 2



Friday 9th October

We have now finished 6 weeks of our first term back and drop-offs and collection seems to be continuing to work well – thank you. Please can we remind you to arrive at school no early than 8.45am as doors will not open until then. The front gate will remain open until 9.00am. In the afternoon, the gates will open at 3.00pm. Please don't arrive and congregate before this time. School still finishes at 3.15pm – we are just trying to avoid large groups of people arriving and moving through school at the same time, hence allowing a flow of people through to collect from 3.00pm.

School Admissions

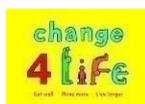
A reminder for parents of children in Year 6 that the Northumberland County Council School Admissions portal is now open to apply for Secondary places for September 2021. You can log on via the Northumberland County Council website and all applications must be in **before 31st October**. Applications after this date will be classed as 'late' and will not be processed until all 'on time' applications have been allocated. Although it seems a long time away, it will soon be upon us, so please ensure you complete the process. In the past we have had children miss out on their place at Secondary school due to late applications.

Testing

We have had a small number of families who have had a test for Covid-19 and thankfully all have come back negative. Thank you to them for informing us following the rules about self-isolation until the results have come back. A reminder that the rules are that if anybody within your household or 'bubble' go for a Covid-19 test, the whole household should self-isolate until the test result returns as negative. **Please do not send children into school whilst you are awaiting the results – even if it is not the children who have had the test.** We have set up an email address for you to inform us that you are being tested and more importantly, the results. This address is: covid@pegswood.northumberland.sch.uk Thank you.

Parents'/Carers' Evening

This year we will be holding this via phone calls after half-term. We will be sending out a sign-up sheet for you to choose a convenient time to receive the phone call, via a link. We will inform you when we have done this. The calls will be a maximum of 10 minutes. You will receive a separate call for each child and this is likely to be on different nights as we have only two outgoing phone lines, so unfortunately all staff cannot complete the calls on the same night. As ever, if you need to contact a member of staff before this, please use Class Dojo. Please ensure that you notify the school office as soon as you can if you need to update school about your phone number.



Scooters and bikes

It is great to see so many children still coming to school on bikes and scooters. Please can we remind you that children should not be on their bikes or scooters until they have reached the front gates after you have walked through the car park. Please would you make sure your child is not riding their scooter or bike through the playground or car park.

Online work

Should we need to close a class bubble due to a positive test result, or if your child is off school awaiting the results of a test for someone in their house, there is an expectation that the children self-isolating will still complete work that is set for them whilst they are off school. The obvious exception to this is if your child is not well. Please contact school if this would be an issue for you due to a lack of suitable device.

We do understand that during the 'lockdown' period, most people were at home and so time could be spent with your child everyday doing the work with them. However, if we do have to close a class, we appreciate the knock-on effect this may have, whilst possibly having to juggle your own work commitments.

We will endeavour to give an overview of the work that needs completing before the specifics of each day. We again, appreciate that some days may be better for getting the school work completed due to your own personal work commitments.

I know that Mrs Sligo, Mrs Provett and Miss France have worked hard with Years 5 and 6 demonstrating the online capabilities of School360 and where work would be set. The children have been practising completing set work, uploading it to the teacher and receiving it back again. We would expect Year 5 and 6 children to take more responsibility by logging onto School360 each day to find their work to complete.

It is a school's statutory duty to continue with contact should you be self-isolating and we would expect engagement back – a little like during the lockdown period. Even if you are self-isolating, staff are available, during school times, on Class Dojo, unless they themselves are ill. If this is the case, we would have another member of staff available.

As we move through the next weeks and possibly months, it may be necessary to use different members of staff to the usual class teacher, should they need to self-isolate due to their family situation, in order to keep classes open. This will be done with as little movement of staff between bubbles, but with a relatively small staff, this may be impossible.

