



18th September 2020
Walbottle Village Primary
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Dear Families and Board Members,

All of the children are settled back into their school routine now and this week teaching around our new autumn topics has begun. School feels like a happy, calm and safe place and we are all keeping our fingers crossed that any Government restrictions imposed in the coming weeks and months do not affect this.

As the term progresses, we will undoubtedly be affected by Covid both directly and indirectly. We are following government and public health guidance to the letter. As there is so much information to sift through, we have posted a guide on our website which you may find useful. This gives information about the actions we must take if a child or staff member displays symptoms, what to do if there is a confirmed case and what to do if a family member has symptoms or tests positive. You will be aware that guidance is being updated all of the time and you can find the most up to date information on the DFE and NHS websites:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

<https://www.nhs.uk/>

Ambulance Adoption

We have some very exciting news!! One of our ex-parents, Indra Rehan Niro, and her family have adopted a Daft as a Brush Ambulance and they have asked us to name it. Daft as a brush cancer patient care offers transport to patients undergoing cancer treatment. Our year 6 pupils will be coming up with a name to go on the ambulance alongside our school logo. Keep your eyes open for it in the coming weeks. We will let you know once they have decided on a name.



Drop Off & Pick Up

Drop off and pick up is becoming easier now that everyone is used to the new arrangements. Thank you for allowing your child to enter alone if they are old and confident enough to do so. This definitely helps to ease congestion.

We are all used to following social distancing rules in all aspects of our life now. However we have had a couple of parents get in touch this week to request another reminder in the newsletter about this. Thank you to all of you who are queuing safely. We all have a duty to try and keep ourselves and others safe and stay 1 metre apart wherever possible.

Now that Class Dojo is up and running, you can use this as a means of communicating with your child's class teacher seeing as those conversations can no longer take place on the school yard.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place over the telephone this term. Your child's class teacher will contact you during the week commencing 28th September. We are not giving out appointments but if you are unable to take the call when your child's teacher rings, they will keep trying across the week. You will hear how your child has settled into their new class and targets will be shared.

Dinner Money

Where possible can we ask that dinner money is paid over the phone by card please? Payments should be made between 9.30am and 2.30pm where possible on a Monday morning for the week ahead. If you are unable to do this, please send dinner money in a labelled envelope with your child.

Attendance

We have had a brilliant start to the term around attendance. This will not be reported in the newsletter for the foreseeable future as we are fully aware that this is largely beyond your control at the moment.

KEY DATES

W/C 28th September – Parent telephone consultations
2nd Oct – Mid-Term reports to be sent home with children
26th-30th October – Half Term
19th Nov – Flu Vaccinations - Reception – Year 6

There will understandably be less to share each week whilst visits out and visitors into school are suspended. Because of this, I will be sending out a newsletter fortnightly. Please continue to keep an eye on Facebook and our school website for any updates in between.

Kindest Regards
Mrs A. Oliver
Head Teacher