Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another super week at Sowerby. Things are starting to get into a routine and a new normal as everyone settles into routines. Thank you for being so understanding about the staggered starts etc. It is much appreciated. We have had a few pupils off with colds (normal for this time of year). Parents are being careful and cautious and keeping children at home. We do not have any positive tests currently and keep fingers crossed this remains the case. The Covid-parent’s guidance sent with this email (also on the website) is so that you can make a judgement as to whether you or your child has symptoms that are Covid and not just a cold. Getting a test is proving very challenging and this should be done only if you think that symptoms are Covid related. Our Risk Assessment for school to be open with control measures is also on the website. We hope that helps.

**Individual Photographs**
The school photographer is in school on Tuesday 22nd September. All children will have their photograph taken individually. Unfortunately, this year you will not be able to have family photographs which include younger (pre-school) and older (secondary school) siblings. Siblings who are in school can have photos together. Tempest the company running it have provided their Risk assessment and we are satisfied it is appropriate.

**TikTok**
We are aware that TikTok has become extremely popular especially over lockdown. We have been made aware that some of the content may be unsuitable and distressing. We have a duty of care and are committed to keeping our children safe online and helping make parents aware. Please see the link below for your information.


**Swimming**
We have been advised by Thirsk Leisure Centre that swimming lessons for schools are not taking place at the moment. We will keep you informed.

**COVID-19 Guidance for Parents**
Covid-19 guidance for parents is now available for you to download/read on the school website, www.sowerbyacademy.org. These can be found in the newsletter yellow box on the homepage and in Key Information +, Covid. Thank you.

**Flu Vaccination**
The nasal influenza vaccination is being offered to all children in Reception to Year 7. The Flu team are scheduled to visit Sowerby Primary Academy this Autumn as part of this programme. If you would like your child to receive this immunisation, please ensure your consent form has been submitted no later than 4/10/2020 – if you submit your consent form after this date your child may be missed when they visit school.

**How do I give my consent?**
1. Go to https://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent/
2. Enter the School Code 145369 and click “Find School”.
3. Complete the form with your child’s information and parent/guardian contact information*
4. Click the green “Submit” button.

*If you provide a valid email address you will receive an automatic email confirmation to say your form has been submitted. You will receive an email to let you know that your child has been vaccinated in school. If your child has specific medical requirements one of the nurses may need to get in touch before they are due to visit school. Your contact information will never be passed to third parties. To find out more Please visit https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine for more information about the childhood influenza vaccination programme.

You can contact the childhood immunisations team on hdft.childhood.immunisations@nhs.net or 01423 542360. They are a small team and cannot always answer the phone straight away, so please leave a message if there is no one available to take your call. They endeavor to respond to all queries within one working day.

**REMEMBERS at the start of a new school year to help things run smoothly. Thank you!**

- **Communication With Parents**
  
  Your support for your child’s education is crucial to their progress. Please tell us if there are any adjustments we need to make to help support your child, for example: letters in large font; letters in different languages; wheelchair access; explaining things over the phone; a discussion with a school colleague of the same gender.

- **Registration / Update Details**
  
  Please let us have any changes in address/telephone numbers/emergency contact details/doctor/any other information that you feel we need, as soon as possible. This is our only way of contacting you should we need to. Thank you.

- **Absences**
  
  Please will you telephone or email school before 8.30am if your child is going to be late or is ill? This is so that we can keep your children safe and avoid unnecessary telephone calls. If we have not heard from you we will assume something is wrong and contact you. Thank you. Telephone 01845 523037/email admin@sowerbyacademy.org

- **Naming Property!**
  
  Please can we ask that you name EVERYTHING and encourage (as will we) your children to look after it? We will try to keep a weekly check and if things are named they can be returned quickly to their owner. Thank you.

- **School Dinners Key Stage 2 – Prices £2.50 per meal for each child, £12.50 per week**
  
  Please use ParentPay to pay for your child’s school meals. Thank you.

- **Packed Lunches / Playtime Snacks – Healthy School Status**
  
  Please can we remind you that children should not bring chocolate/sweets, fizzy drinks in cans or bottles as part of their packed lunch, or, for a snack? It is important that children have a drink in their packed lunch.

- *****Ear Rings*****
  
  We would like at this point in the year to remind everyone about our policy on ear rings. Children can wear studs during the day but MUST take them out for PE – this includes swimming and sporting events – including sports day in the summer term. Teachers are not allowed to do this for them. If your child can’t do this for themselves please will you ensure they don’t wear ear rings on the days they have PE. We cannot allow children to cover them with plasters. We would always advise children to have their ears pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays. Thank you.

- **Parking**
  
  Please can we ask the parents do not park in the school car park or the bus park when dropping off and collecting children, and be considerate to residents who live nearby by not blocking or parking too close to their driveways. Thank you for your support.

Attendance Last week:
Whole school 98.7%, unauthorised absence 0%. Best class attendance Amber, Diamond, Crystal, Jade and Sapphire classes. Well done!
Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Ungerechts
Head Teacher