



Wigton Infant School
Longthwaite Road
Wigton
Cumbria CA7 9JR

Headteacher: **Mr Geoff Norman**

Telephone: (016973) 42649

Fax: (016973) 42649

Email: head@wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

admin@wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

www.wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

24th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Newsletter

This seems like an appropriate time to review the first two full weeks back at school and bring you up to date with one or two changes in school.

The first thing I would like to say is how impressed I have been with all of the children – they have settled in to the school routines really well and have proved how resilient young children can be – they can certainly teach us adults a thing or two!

It is of course far from a normal return to school and some things have been more challenging than usual, but I can say that we are well on the way to running our school days in a normal fashion. The kitchen team and classroom staff in Year 2 have done a fantastic job in proving me wrong – their hard work and planning has enabled Year 2 to access a full menu from their classroom. The separation of the year group bubbles is working well now that we have adjusted our lunchtimes a bit. The issues around Covid testing have caused us a few issues, but generally staff and children with symptoms have been able to return to school quickly after their negative tests. I feel it is only a matter of time before we have to respond to a positive test from our school community but until then we are keeping our fingers crossed!

Please note that we continue to need your help and understanding with social distancing in the school grounds whilst bringing and collecting your children from school and continued communication with us over illnesses, symptoms and testing. **The need for distancing is more pressing than ever so please keep your distance, follow the one-way systems, and adhere to the drop off and pick up times for your child's class.**

We would really appreciate if you could leave the school grounds immediately after dropping off/collecting your child to avoid overcrowding.

Mrs Fisher

Many of you will know Mrs Fisher well, both as your child's Midday Supervisor and perhaps your own when you were a child at Wigton Infants! Sadly, due the risks from Covid-19, Mrs Fisher has taken the difficult decision to retire from her role. Mrs Fisher would have been with us for 45 years in January – an incredible period of dedicated service and care for our children.

This means we now have a vacancy for a midday supervisor to work 1 hour per day Monday to Friday. If you are interested please let us know.

Staffing

There have been one or two other changes in staffing since the beginning of term, mostly because some staff have now been able to return to work and where possible we are reducing the number of classes and year groups that staff members have to work in. Mrs Coulthard will now be doing the PPA cover in both Year 2 classes and in the Nursery class, while Mrs Dawson will be doing the PPA cover in Reception and Year 1.



Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy on our Governing Body for a Co-opted Governor. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this position please contact Mrs Woodburn who will inform the Chair of Governors

Car Park Safety

We have lots of traffic in our car park at the beginning and end of the school day. Please take extra care and under no circumstances bring your vehicle into the car park.

Flu Vaccinations

These will take place in our Community Room on Tuesday 1st December. If you haven't yet returned your consent form you must do so by Monday 28th September. If your child is ill within the 3 days leading up to this, you must inform us so we can update school health.

Contact Details

We are no longer sending home the annual data collection sheet. It is your responsibility to update us as and when your circumstances/contact details change. You must also make sure you have provided us with an email address as this is our main form of electronic communication. Please inform us of any changes via admin@wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

Nursery

If you pay for Nursery sessions then please make your payments at the beginning of the week/month/term and do not allow arrears to build up as this may affect your child's place. Cash or cheques made payable to 'Wigton Infant School' must be placed in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name and 'NURSERY FEES' and handed into the main school office.

Our Nursery is proving to be very popular therefore we will only be allowing admissions three times a year- September, January and April.

Lunchshop

We have an increasing number of parents who are not cancelling their child's meal before the 9.00am deadline when they are absent from school. This in turn affects our Lunchshop ordering system and produces incorrect figures for the kitchen. Orian have informed us that with immediate effect school will be charged for all meals which are not cancelled before 9.00am. Unfortunately, we will be passing these charges onto parents.

Absence

Please make sure you telephone school as soon as possible when your child is absent, otherwise they will be allocated an unauthorised attendance mark. You should do this on the morning of the first absence and every morning thereafter while they are absent. We are obliged to follow up absences through our safeguarding procedures, often unnecessarily wasting significant amounts of staff time.

If your child has any of the three COVID-19 symptoms they must not attend school and you must ensure they are tested. Your household must self-isolate until you receive the results.

If your child becomes unwell whilst in school, we will contact you and will need you to collect them straight away.

TJS Breakfast/Afterschool Club

If you would like your child to attend either of these clubs then you must make the arrangements directly with Elaine Armstrong on 07305245556 or the TJS office on 42432, not with our school staff. The same applies if your child is absent, you must let them know to cancel your place.



Communication/Face Coverings

The main school reception has limited access for parents and visitors. If you must enter this area then please remember to wear a face covering and keep your visit as brief as possible. This area must be kept clear at all times.

Uniform will not be sold over the counter, you must use the order form system. We will either send the order home with your child or let you know when it is ready to collect.

Our preferred methods of communication are via the telephone 42649 or email

admin@wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

Please also make sure you have downloaded our **School Jotter** App.

Wellies/trainers

Due to the restrictions around different year groups using the same space we are unable to use the school hall for PE activities. All PE sessions will take place outside. Could we ask all children to have a pair of trainers in school for this as school shoes or plimsolls are not suitable. A spare pair of socks should also be included in their bag to change into after PE. Please note- Reception children should bring trainers but do not need to bring their PE kit just yet.

All classes now have welly racks outside the door. You can now easily see if your child has their wellies in school and check them for size and replace them if necessary. Please make sure they have your child's name on.

Cool Milk

It appears that we have a large number of children who are not drinking their milk. If you find that this is your child you must cancel your future order directly with Cool Milk. To do this go to the Cool Milk website <https://www.coolmilk.com> and cancel your order before 5pm on a Tuesday evening for this to take effect the following week.

Photographer

Due to the challenges we face with Covid-19 restrictions we have decided not to have the school photographer in this year.

Class Dojo/Tapestry

All our Nursery and Reception parents should have received an e-mail with an activation link for their child's Tapestry account.

Year 1 and year 2 parents should have received an e-mail inviting you to set up a class Dojo account. If you have any queries about either of these systems please email admin@wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk

Restrictions

Whilst it is lovely to celebrate your child's birthday unfortunately we cannot allow birthday cakes, sweets or treats sent in from home. The only items which your child is allowed to bring to school are- coat, packed lunch, book bag, water bottle and PE Kit.

Yours Sincerely

G Norman

G Norman

Head Teacher

