

Tuesday 20th October 2020

Half Term and circuit breaker closure

On Friday, we will break up for half term for one week. School will re-open on **Monday 2nd November 2020**. We are not yet aware whether the school will have to close for two weeks as a 'circuit breaker', this will depend on the local COVID alert level. We will inform you as soon as we know. If we have to close we will provide home learning. This week we are trying to find out which families in UKS2 have access to the internet and a computer. All children in years 3-6 have been provided with a gmail address and password and have been shown/will be shown this week how to access this from a computer, ipad or phone. Our KS1 classes will be given homework packs.

We are pleased that Middleton St Mary's has managed to stay fully open until now. This week we have had to collapse our Y1/2 bubble due to one confirmed case. We are very fortunate that we have not had to close a bubble due to a confirmed case prior to this, we are one of the few schools in Leeds that has remained fully open until now. Home learning has been emailed to these families. Thank you for your support.

Harvest 2020

We are still collecting food for Middleton Food Bank. Please send in your donations...tinned food, soap, dried food, cereals, long life milk etc. We would like to hand over the collection later this week.

Parent Governor Vacancy

If you are interested in this exciting voluntary role, please telephone the school and ask to speak to Mrs N Wood who can tell you more about the role.

Swillington Farm - Hooks for Writing!

Last week our Reception children went on a trip to Aldi to buy ingredients to make a cake for our upcoming party to give Mrs Large (the elephant from 'Five Minutes Peace' by Jill Murphy) five minutes peace from her children! We quickly realised that the eggs were running out and too expensive for us to buy at the shop, so we decided to go to the farm instead. The children ventured out for the first time on our school minibuses on Wednesday and Thursday to Swillington Organic Farm.

The children had written letters to the farmers asking for some chickens as we needed some eggs. The children enjoyed fantastic learning experiences looking at the animals up close and collecting apples, crushing them to make apple juice. The farmers answered our questions about the farm and at the end of the morning they handed over our very own chickens.

The children were very excited to show the chickens their new home at Middleton St Mary's and we are looking forward to seeing if they lay any eggs! The children showed our school values of

Learning, Respect and **Responsibility**.

Wishing you all a restful half term where possible. I hope that you will join me in thanking all of the staff including the cleaners, site superintendents, lunchtime staff, office staff, mentors, kitchen staff, teaching assistants and teachers for their hard work under extra pressure.

Mrs N Wood, Headteacher.

