

VANE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2020

WWW.VANEROADPRIMARY.CO.UK

Message from Mr. Pavey

It has been lovely to see the children back in their Christmas Jumpers today. I want to thank everyone who has donated food for the Foodbank, your generosity has been overwhelming and I will make sure that the food is delivered to those most in need this Christmas.

I have been so impressed with how much the children (and parents/carers) have been taking part in the Random Acts of Kindness. I have seen lots of photos of children helping out at home and in school being kind to one another. Tomorrow's task is very fitting and we can tick that off today – *Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank.* On Sunday I want to challenge the children to see how many different people they can smile at – smiles are contagious!!

The office is working hard to process all the Winter Fund Vouchers to all those in receipt of Free School Meals. Please be patient with these, they should be set up by Wednesday next week.

The staff are doing a fabulous job, welcoming children into school and seeing them safely back to parents/carers each day. Please can I ask that all parents/carers remember to maintain their distance from the staff at all times. I know it is tempting to try to have a quiet word with them as we would normally do. There are lots of other ways which you can contact staff which do not put them or yourselves at risk. It is horrible but it won't be forever!

COVID Update

I feel that this week was a huge milestone in the journey back to a normal life post-COVID with the first vaccines being administered and another vaccine progressing to the next phase of the clinical trials. All this is very exciting and I can see a brighter future not too far away. Please do remember that we are a long way from safety and across both my schools, there are parents, family members and staff who are suffering as a result of catching COVID19. It is a horrible disease and I urge everyone over the next few weeks to remember to keep to the rules – they are here for everyone's safety and it needs everyone to play their role. Remember Hands, Face, Space!

The Government dropped another bombshell this week for schools to deal with – the suggestion of closing on the 18th. You will have all had my message last night regarding this but just to confirm – we are open that day as normal.

I am also aware that many parents/carers are considering keeping their children off school next week as if there are positive cases in school next week it may mean that the children have to isolate on Christmas day. The thought of having to send a message about a positive case next week fills me full of dread. The government have been quite clear that schools must remain open so we will be. This is one of those occasions when I have to say, my job as a Head Teacher is to keep the school open but it remains parent's ultimate decision about whether or not they feel it is safe and appropriate to do so. It is extremely important that school are informed on Class Dojo or telephone as soon as possible if a child is not in school for whatever reason.

Quick Reminders

If you or anyone you know has a child who is due to start school in September '21 the deadline for applications is 15th January '21. Please use the link below to apply online.

[Apply for a primary school place - Durham County Council](#)

Attendance



This week's attendance
(w/c 7.12.20)

Class	Attendance %
1	94.6
2	98.3
3	99.3
4	99.6
5	98.2
6	96.9
7	97.8
8	96.8
9	93.7
10	95.9
11	98.0
12	97.5
13	95.0
14	96.3

Our Minimum Target Is 96%

Well done to classes 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,12 and 14 who have all achieved attendance above our minimum target level. Special "Well done" to class 4 for attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Teacher's Awards



We are sorry that we can't invite parents into school for an assembly at present but have asked the teachers to give weekly merit awards.

These are the children who have received them this week.

C1	Zac J	C2	All of Class 2
C3	Sienna B, Alexander P	C4	Maisy W-F, Eryn A
C5	Jacob H, Year	C6	Marnie W, Jack B,
C7	Albie R	C8	William G
C9	Denver P, Class 9	C10	Jensen S, Jason O
C11	Morgan R, Joel S, Maisie B	C12	Grace B, Levi W
C13	Sophie S	C14	Colby McM

Rights Respecting Certificates were given to William C (C9) and Komalpreet R (C10).



Dates for Your Diary

Golden Day: Friday 18th December
Break up for Christmas: Friday 18th December
Return to school: Monday 4th January
Break up for half term: Friday 12th February
Return to school: Monday 22nd February

After School Clubs - Autumn Term

There are currently no after school clubs running this half term, this will be reviewed as the situation with COVID progresses.

Debbie's Out of Hours Club is separate to this and is running.

Out of Hours Club

REMINDER

If you require child care before or after school this term, you MUST book in the week before.

Breakfast club will open at 7.30am and all children MUST be in by 8.15am. After school club will be until 5.30pm.

These arrangements are to help us keep all the children safe.

If you would like any further information, or to book your child into our Out of Hours Club please ring Debbie Ridley on **07900701981**.

Breakfast Club – If you are paying for your child to have breakfast please make sure they arrive in time - our last serving is at **8.15am**. Thank you.

After School Club – A reminder that this club starts at 3.15pm and finishes promptly at 5:30pm.

Holiday Club – If you need any more information, please get in touch.

<http://vaneroad.sites.schooljotter2.com/parents/out-of-hours-club>

Fun Fact – From Year 6

Did you know that Christmas trees were first used by Ancient Egyptians and Romans?

Rights Respecting - Article 29

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Christmas Events

Parties

Monday 14th December – Year 3
Tuesday 15th December – Year 2
Wednesday 16th December – Year 1
Thursday 17th December – Reception

On the day of their party children can come to school in their party clothes. However, these must be appropriate for school and footwear must be appropriate for playing outside.

Performances

Recordings of the performances are planned to be uploaded online on Monday 14th December, further details to follow.

Christmas Cards

A reminder we are not accepting any Christmas Cards in school this year. If you can, please donate to our Christmas Card Appeal on ParentPay which will be sent to a charity chosen by our Community Group. Thank you.



Job Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for a Cleaner and a Lunchtime Play Leader. If you, or anyone you know would like to apply please follow the links below. The closing date for both is Monday 14th December.

https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Temporary_Cleaner/202459

https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Lunchtime_Play_Leader/202597