



NORBRIGGS PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Norbriggs Christmas 2020 Newsletter

It's been another very strange term. Our aim has been to keep the school open, to keep everybody safe and to try to make school as normal as we can for the children. It's not been easy, and in the middle I felt a wave of despair as people around me started to fall ill. But we recovered and the classrooms are full of laughter. We could not have done this without the dedication from the staff and the support from yourselves. Thankyou

We are all shattered and deserve a really good rest. So it just leaves me to wish you a very happy Christmas and let's hope the New Year brings good fortune to you all and the hope of a return to normality, and maybe a pint or two with a scotch egg in a lovely pub garden with the sun shining!

Round Up Of The Autumn Term

- **Christmas**

We are very aware that we cannot invite you into school to watch our Christmas celebrations this year. So we have made it our mission to film as many activities as we can and share them with you on a daily basis so that you can see your children working hard and having fun. I hope we have achieved that and you have enjoyed seeing the photos and films as much as we have enjoyed making them.

Search for your child's class to keep up to date:

Website - <https://www.norbriggs.derbyshire.sch.uk>

YouTube – Norbriggs Primary

- **Christmas Dinner**

This was a roaring success. We normally have all the children in the hall together but under Covid guidance that is not possible. So this year the children ate in class in their bubbles. Food was loaded onto hostess warming trolleys and staff delivered the food to the children. They had all the trimmings including crackers, table cloths, after dinner mints and Christmas music to cheer them along. It was lovely to see their smiling faces.

- **Enrichment Activities**

Unfortunately swimming for Year 5 will not take place this year. The local authority has explored lots of ways to reintroduce this safely but it is just not possible.

The Year 4 children have been having their trumpet and trombone lessons and are already making fantastic progress. I desperately hope we can invite you in to watch them play nearer the end of the year.

We have been doing lots of sport and activity. All children walk the equivalent of a mile every day. All classes do PE twice a week and we have had sports coaches in to lead hockey, tennis, football, athletics and other activities.

Year 5 have planted a fruit tree orchard and they have also had visits from a vicar and an Imam as part of their RE topic.

We had an impromptu fire drill when Mrs Goodall over baked her cookies and thankfully the children were excellent at clearing the building quickly and safely.

We have held 'Wear Yellow to raise awareness of mental health' and 'Wear blue to raise awareness of diabetes.' We held a Macmillan event to raise awareness of the incredible work these nurses do and we joined in with 'Children In Need' with a virtual version of our annual talent show.

Reminders

ParentPay

We are moving to being a cashless school from the New Year. Hopefully you will have received all the information you need about this. Everything from dinners, school trips, after school clubs and breakfast club will be paid for through Parent Pay so please ensure you have set up your account ready.

Behaviour

It was noticeable that behaviour had slipped a little when we came back in September. Some children found it hard to concentrate for extended periods of time, some others found it difficult to follow instructions, others were not kind to each other. On the whole things feel like they are getting back to normal and we are seeing the hard working side of the children shine through alongside their lovely personalities.

However, there is a small minority of children who are still struggling to behave in socially acceptable ways. We have put measures in place to try to help these children realise that some behaviours are not acceptable and for most, these measures are working. However, one or two are finding it more difficult and I have had to issue some exclusions, two of these were permanent exclusions.

We will do everything in our power to help all children to be the best they can but if I believe one child's behaviour is putting others at risk then I will have no choice but to take the appropriate action.

Uniform and PE kits

After relaxing rules for Christmas we will be back to full uniform from January 2021.

Normal school uniform is black shoes or trainers, black or grey trousers, skirt or dress, white or burgundy polo shirt and burgundy sweatshirt or cardigan.

On PE day children can come to school wearing dark joggers, white t shirt with their burgundy school jumper.

If a child wears coloured joggers, crop tops or football kits you will receive a phone call asking you to bring the correct clothing. The child will not be able to take part in the PE lesson unless they are wearing the correct clothes.

Clothes to keep warm

To comply with Covid guidelines we have doors and windows open in classrooms at all times to allow plenty of fresh air in. This does mean that, although we have the heating on, it does get cold in the classroom. Ask your child if they are warm enough and put extra layers of clothes on if necessary. Ideally an extra t-shirt under their school sweatshirt would work best.

Statutory Assessments

This year the Government has announced that the only Statutory Assessments to take place in Primary Schools are the Year 6 Reading and Year 6 Maths SATs and the Year 1 Phonic Screen. They have not confirmed the date for these tests but the Year 6 SATs usually take place the week beginning the 10th May. The Year 1 Phonic Screen usually takes place the week beginning the 14th June. I will update you if these arrangements change.



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Covid Routines

- We had a Covid outbreak before half term but since then we have been Covid free. I cannot thank you enough for sticking to the routines that we have put in place to keep everybody safe.
 - Only 1 adult to drop off / pick children
 - All adults to wear a face covering
 - Once you have dropped off / picked up your child please leave the site immediately
 - Socially distance
- **Timings at start and end of day**

Please stick to the timings for picking up your child. This just helps us to spread the flow of parents and reduce the amount of people on site at any one time.
- **Illness**
 - If your child is ill please keep your children off school, many children who do not have the classic Covid symptoms have gone on to test positive for Covid.
 - Symptoms are a new, dry, continuous cough, loss of taste or smell, high temperature.
 - If you have symptoms **you must isolate for 10 days** and **people living with you must also isolate for 10 days**.
 - If you have symptoms **you must book a test**.
 - If the test is negative then you and your family no longer need to isolate.
 - Do not come onto the school site if someone in your household has symptoms or has tested positive.
 - If the test is positive you must inform school so that we can contact Public Health England
- **National Restrictions**
 - We are currently in tier 3. This means that you should not socialise with anyone inside or outside unless they are in your bubble.

Term Dates

- **Spring 2021**
 - Monday 4th January 2021 Children back to school
 - **Wednesday 13th January 2021** **INSET Day, no children in school**
 - Thursday 11th February 2021 School finishes for half term
 - **Friday 12th February 2021** **INSET Day, no children in school**
 - Monday 22nd February 2021 Children back to school
 - Thursday 1st April 2021 School finishes for Easter
- **Summer 2021**
 - Monday 19th April Children back to school
 - Monday 3rd May 2021 May Day – school closed
 - Friday 28th May 2021 School finishes for half term
 - Monday 7th June 2021 Children back to school
 - Thursday 22nd July 2021 School finishes for the Summer
- **Autumn 2021**
 - **Thursday 2nd September 2021** **INSET Day, no children**
 - **Friday 3rd September 2021** **INSET Day, no children**
 - Monday 6th September 2021 Children back to school



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