



# Wigton Infant School

## March Newsletter

### Website

[www.wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.wigtoninf.cumbria.sch.uk)

(also available as an app – just search for Wigton Infant School via the School Jotter app)

### Return to School – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

We are delighted to be preparing to welcome all of the children back to school next Monday. We would like to stress that this is just the first step in the national Roadmap to Recovery, so it will be essential to maintain all of the safety precautions to reduce infection – start and finish times will be staggered, year groups will be taught in separate bubbles, parents must use the one way system, socially distance at all times and wear a mask (covering the mouth and nose) while on school grounds and if you enter the main reception area. I like the analogy used by professor Van Tam recently:

*We are 3-0 up but if we relax our guard the virus could easily make a comeback in what seems like the dying minutes of the game!*

Further details on arrangements will follow later this week.

### The Recovery Curriculum

You have probably seen and heard lots in the news about “Catch-up”, “Recovery Curriculum” and “Closing the attainment gap” among other common phrases – I don’t think education has ever been in the news so much! For us at school this all boils down to working as hard as possible to ensure the best possible return to normal school life for your child, and

once normality has returned, to maximize their learning through a curriculum and a school day which prioritize their wellbeing and happiness while pursuing the full breadth of their learning. The curriculum will not be “normal” for a number of weeks as we aim to deliver more opportunities for outdoor learning, socializing, play, speaking, listening and building self-confidence and emotional resilience.

### Healthy snacks/water bottles

We provide all children with a piece of fruit daily as part of the National Fruit Scheme. We receive a different range of fruit depending on the time of year. If your child has a limited preference to fruit could you please send some in for your child as they often get hungry in the mornings.

Can you please ensure that the children’s water bottles are only filled with water.

### Cool Milk

Cool milk will resume their deliveries to school for children who have school milk from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

You should have received an e-mail from them confirming this. If you have any queries about school milk please contact them directly on 08003213248.

### Communication

Please remember to contact the school office with messages regarding absence, medical appointments or to tell us who is collecting your child from school rather than using Tapestry/ClassDojo. Please make sure you check the school app and your e-mails regularly for messages.



## Car Safety

We have lots of traffic in our car park at the beginning and end of the school day. Please take extra care and use the footpaths where possible as it is too dangerous to walk through the main car park at these times. **Under no circumstances bring your vehicles into the car park.**

Please also **park sensibly** and following the road markings when dropping off and picking up your children. You all have access to our FREE Park & Stride scheme which operates from Water Street Car Park. Please let us know if you have lost your parking voucher. Parking is also not permitted at the Nelson Thomlinson School car park, Wigton Medical Practice, Hills Garage or anywhere blocking access to residents' driveways.

## World Book Day

**Thursday 4th March 2021**

We will still be celebrating World Book Day this year, despite most of us being stuck at home!

- Dressing-Up: We would love to see your book-character costumes on Dojo or Tapestry. However, the shops are shut and delivery-drivers are quite busy enough. Please see what costumes you can come up with using items you already have at home, or make and decorate masks or hats instead!

- The Masked Reader: Teaching staff will be masking up, and you will have to guess who is reading what! We will send you links to videos of our masked readers, and you will need to tell us who you think each reader is. Out of all the children (and helpers!) who guess the most correctly, we will do a prize draw for one lucky winner.

- We're not running online learning as usual on World Book Day. Take time to read with your child, to let them read, and to listen to stories we'll be uploading. We would like your child to create a picture book theatre (you'll need about two cereal-boxes worth of cardboard) for their favourite story. Here's the

link to a video of Lydia Monks (illustrator of "What the Ladybird Heard" and "Sharing a Shell") showing you how:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/how-to-create-a-picture-book-theatre/>

- There are a host of other activities and ideas on the World Book Day Website here:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

- "Weirder Reader": Take a picture of yourself reading in a strange way or strange place (within lockdown rules) and post it to Dojo or Tapestry. There will be a prize for the weirdest entry.

- We will also be reading stories online on the hour, every hour. We'll send zoom links for you to access these.

**Children attending the school hub can come to school dressed in book character costumes if they wish.**

## Lunch Shop

Please remember to order your child's meals for the week commencing **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**.

Orders should be placed online at [www.lunchshop.co.uk](http://www.lunchshop.co.uk). You can order daily **before 9.00am** or up to 3 weeks at a time.


Please make sure you have signed up to the Lunch Shop reminders.

Please also remember to cancel your child's order if they are going to be absent from school.

If your child would like to move from school lunches to a packed lunch or vice-versa we require 1 weeks' notice which must be given to the school office.

## Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**. We intend to celebrate RND this year and raise some money for good causes while having lots of fun – further details to follow.





### **Spare Clothes**

If your child needs changed at school and comes home in spare clothes it is important that you wash and return these as soon as possible to your child's class teacher as we have a limited supply.

If your child is prone to accidents it would be helpful to have a spare change of clothes in their school bag.

Please also remember to name all items of your child's school uniform, including PE kits. This will make returning items much easier.

### **FOWIS Book Gift**

We are delighted to say that FOWIS have provided each class with a £150 fund to buy new picture and story books. No doubt the teachers will be sharing their new books with you soon – they are scouring the internet with big smiles on their faces as I write this 😊

### **Benefit Based Free School Meals**

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you register for Free School Meals (even if your child does not want a school meal) it means that school will receive extra funding which will benefit your child.

For further details and to make your application please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

### **Dates to remember**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March-** World Book Day

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March-** Return to school

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March-** Red Nose Day

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April-** End of Term

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April-** Return to school

