

Newsletter 3

Friday 25th September 2020

In this issue:

Suspected cases letters

Coats

School lunches

Headteacher roll of honour

Early Intervention Family
Workers

Harvest Festival

Sentence starters

Online Safety

Forthcoming dates

Suspected Cases Letters

I am acutely aware that many of you are feeling very anxious following receipt of letters informing you of 'suspected cases' of Covid-19 in your child/children's pod over the last two weeks. We are not obliged to inform parents and carers of suspected cases, only if a positive case is confirmed. However, we have always valued the open dialogue which exists between the school and our parents and carers and in this spirit of openness we have decided that we will continue to inform you of any suspected cases in school.

Please be assured that we are stringently following all guidance from the Government and Public Health England and are working tirelessly to keep children as safe as possible and accessing their learning.

Mrs Howell

Naming items

Please ensure that all items of your child's school uniform, including water bottles, are clearly named. It makes re-uniting lost/misplaced items with their owner much easier. Thank you.

Coats!



We have seen the first wet weather in rather a long time this week. With so much of our learning taking place outside at the moment it is essential that all children have a coat with them in school at all times to prevent disruptions to lessons.

Please can we ask you to check that your child has a rain coat with them every day, especially if you are driving to school.

School Lunches

I am very pleased to inform you that from next Thursday, 1st October, the lunchtime menu will be changing as we are able to re-introduce a hot meals service. The current 'grab pack' service allowed us to continue to provide school meals through the lockdown period, but with the onset of the cooler weather we are delighted that children will be able to choose from a wide variety of delicious hot food each day.

Please log on to School Grid to view the new menu and book your meals in advance. Children can become distressed if their meals are not pre-ordered as this results in delays in providing their lunch. It is also helpful if the children are involved in selecting their lunches.



Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive Universal Infant Free School Meals. We receive funding to provide these meals so please encourage your child to try them.



Headteacher Roll of Honour

Alex in Lacerta Class—Alex responded with great energy and enthusiasm to a challenge set by Mr Frame in English and wrote a descriptive poem about the view from emergent trees in the rainforest. We are all so proud of Alex as he also had the courage to share his poem with his classmates.

Zachary in Phoenix Class—Since returning to school Zachary has been putting so much effort into everything he does and has shown us what high expectations he has for himself. However, in the true spirit of the Monkfield Way, he has also made time to support his peers.

Early Intervention Family workers

The Early Intervention Family Worker, Samantha Stacey, is still working with us to offer support to our families, albeit virtually at the moment. Early Intervention Family Workers offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include: challenging behaviour, routines, supporting emotions and wellbeing, school transitions, parenting strategies, building resilience and confidence and any other family challenges you might be facing. A poster detailing the full services Sam is able to offer together with her contact details is attached to the newsletter.

Harvest Festival Donations



Yet again the Monkfield Park community has blown us away with their generosity. Whilst some are resorting to panic buying, our families have donated an incredible amount of food stuffs, cleaning products and essential items for those who are less fortunate—the photo shows only a fraction of the donated goods! The Cambourne Food Bank will collect this on Tuesday to deliver to families in need. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed.

Sentence Starters

Ask your Reception child to put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the correct order.

Ask your Year 1 child to describe what the weather is like in a tropical jungle.

Ask your Year 2 child to tell you about sukkot and why it is celebrated.

Ask your Year 3 child to explain the purpose of the skeleton for living creatures.

Ask your Year 4 child to explain the setting of 'Escape from Pompeii'.

Ask your Year 5 child to explain the Roman Numeral system and write their birth year using it.

Ask your Year 6 child to explain how to add decimal numbers using the column method.

Online Safety

Over the last few months with so many of us relying on technology to keep us connected, online safety has become more important than ever. In school we have been talking to the children about the importance of keeping themselves safe whilst working online. They have been learning about not sharing passwords, who to report their concerns to if they are upset by something they have seen or that has been written, how to spot spoof emails, along with not sharing personal information with 'friends' they have met online.

Do you ask your child regularly about what they do when online? Do you ask who they are talking to in chat rooms or when they are playing games? It's important to ask your child these questions and find out the answers. If you have any concerns about the risks your child may face online please look on the school website for useful links about where to seek further help and guidance. You may also wish to visit two informative and current websites which provide advice about children's online activity. They are: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> and <https://parentzone.org.uk/>

FORTHCOMING DATES 2020 to 2021

These dates may be subject to change if there are changes in Government and Local Authority guidance over the coming months. We hope to be able to produce a more extensive list as the term progresses. Currently it is planned to hold meetings and events via zoom.

w/c 28th September—Healthy Lifestyles Week

w/c 28th September—Year 6 Bikeability

9th October at 9am—Cygnus Class assembly

12th October—Individual school photographs

13th October 5-7.30pm—Parent consultation evening

22nd October 4—6. 30 pm—Parent consultation evening

26th—30th October—HALF TERM

2nd November—Children return to school

13th November at 9am—Indigo Class assembly

w/c 16th November—Anti bullying week

16th November—Flu vaccinations

8th December at 10am—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

9th December at 2pm—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

10th December at 2pm—Year 2 Nativity

10th December at 6pm—Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert

11th December at 10am—Year 1 Nativity

18th December—LAST DAY OF TERM

19th December—1st January 2021—CHRISTMAS BREAK

4th January Children return to school



Cambridgeshire
County Council

Your Early Intervention Family Worker

Samantha Stacey

Early Intervention Family Workers offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

As Early Intervention Family Workers we offer support in various ways:

- 1:1 sessions
- Workshops on specific topics
- Attending school events
- Group sessions on areas of need
- Signposting to other services

During the coronavirus pandemic we are still offering support, however this is currently on a virtual basis.

For more information speak to your school office or contact us directly on:

✉ Samantha.stacey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk ☎ 01954 284604