



CURDWORTH PRIMARY NEWS 2020 - 2021

**ISSUE 3
NOVEMBER**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Autumn Term 2; it has been so lovely to see our children and their families back at school this week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for their support during the challenging end to last term. I was incredibly proud of how well the children engaged with their learning from home and thoroughly enjoyed seeing some of the wonderful learning being shared via the class dojo app. I would also like to publicly thank the staff at Curdworth Primary School for their hard work and adaptability during this time; we are incredibly privileged to have such a dedicated team. This week we are looking forward to hosting our first virtual parents' evening, please see the reverse of this news letter for more information.

Best wishes, Mrs Lisa Dodd (Headteacher)



CHRISTMAS REMINDER!



Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, Christmas this year will look very different in primary schools across the globe. This year we will not be able to put on our usual Christmas productions. However, this DOES NOT mean that Christmas will be cancelled and the staff are already planning creative ways to ensure that Christmas is still just as special as always.

In order to make this year magical we would like to provide a few extra treats and surprises for the children. As we are unable to raise funds through PTA events in the same way, we are asking for parents support with this. Mrs Teasdale has setup an optional payment item of £10 on school money. Money donated by parents via this payment item, will go directly towards Christmas at Curdworth Primary School.

More information about Christmas events and activities will follow.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO HAVE MADE A DONATION ALREADY!



POPPY APPEAL



Between now and Wednesday 11th November, we will be selling a selection of items to raise money for The Royal British Legion. Suggested donations for items range from 50p to £1.50. Items on sale include poppies, reflective key rings, rulers, bracelets and slap-band bracelets. Each class will have their own box of goodies to choose from.

KEEPING SAFE

Many thanks to all parents/carers for wearing face coverings when dropping and collecting children from school. I would also like to thank you for adhering to our one way system and remaining socially distant on our school site.

We do still have a few children across school who are regularly late so I would like to remind parents again that children arriving after their start time will be recorded as late and may receive a call from our attendance officer if this becomes an ongoing problem.

Please help us to minimise disruptions to lessons and maximise our learning time by ensuring children arrive on time each day.

KEY DATES

NOVEMBER

04.11.20 & 05.11.20 Virtual parents evening

23.11.20 - 27.11.20 Year 2 Phonics Screening

30.11.20 INSET day (children not in school)

DECEMBER

01.12.20 - 04.12.20 Maths week

02.12.20 Flu Vaccinations

14.12.20 - 18.12.20 Creative culture week

18.12.20 Curdworth Christmas Day

18.12.20 Early finish (2.30pm)

21.12.20 - 01.01.21 Christmas Holiday

JANUARY

04.01.21 INSET day (children not in school)

05.01.21 Back to school

11.01.21 Year 6 Health & Weight checks

HARVEST DONATION THANKS

Many thanks to our kind families for their generous donations to Erdington Food Bank.

SCHOOL MEALS REMINDER

Our extended lunch menu has been launched this week and we have introduced lots of new hot food choices.

If you want your child to have a school meal, it is important that you book your meal via school money at least the night before, even if you do not pay for school meals!

VIRTUAL PARENTS' EVENINGS REMINDERS

This week, we will be holding virtual parents' evenings. These virtual meetings will replace our normal parents' evening, which we have had to adapt due to social distancing restrictions. We are excited to be able to connect with you virtually and share in your child's learning journey. The meetings will be hosted using Zoom. Unfortunately, we will not be able to host any face to face parent meetings in school at this time but if you are unable to access Zoom, we can offer a telephone meeting instead.

During the meeting we will be to discuss the following:

- how your child has settled into their new year group
- your child's well-being
- your child's engagement in home learning
- your child's strengths
- next steps for your child

Our first formal assessment period takes place at the end of the Autumn Term and therefore teachers will not be sharing assessment judgements with you during this meeting. Due to time restrictions, the meetings will last no longer than 8 minutes and we ask that all parents respect this. You will be able book another appointment at a later date if you need to discuss any other issues.

Please contact your child's class teacher if you have not already scheduled your meeting.

In preparation for your meeting, please follow these steps:

1. You can access Zoom on a computer or a tablet. For a computer visit www.zoom.com and if you are using a tablet please download the Zoom app.
2. You will need to create a free Zoom account using your email address and a password.
3. Your child's teacher will email you a meeting ID and password to join your meeting.
4. Once you have clicked on the link you will need to select 'Join a Meeting' and add your ID and password .
5. You will be directed to a virtual 'waiting room' while your child's teacher accepts you to the meeting. **Please ensure you have set your display name as your child's name to help the teacher identify who is joining the meeting.**
6. Anyone visible on camera must be dressed appropriately at all times or the meeting will be ended.
7. Please ensure that there is no background noise during your meeting as this makes it very difficult to communicate effectively.

Zoom Security:

The waiting room: This ensures that the teacher can admit people to the meeting only once they have ensured they know who that person is.

Meeting lock: After all the invited member has joined the meeting the teacher's will then lock the meeting to ensure no one else is able to join.

Password protection: All meetings will be set up with a unique ID and require a password to join.

Screen sharing limitations: No file sharing will occur and all security settings have been altered to ensure only the host can share their screen