

WITTERING PRIMARY SCHOOL & FAMILIES CENTRE

“LEARNING TO FLY HIGH”

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Dear Parents

Test & Trace

It has been a challenging week around the new procedures regarding children showing symptoms. At the start of the week I sent letters out to Reception and Year 1 parents but it soon became very apparent that we have lots of children developing heavy colds throughout school. With some of the symptoms being similar this led us to a situation where we had a lot of children and families getting tests just to be on the safe side which is completely understandable. It also would have meant that I was sending a continual stream of letters to year groups, which then lose the importance we need them to have. We are going to modify the system and will only be sending parents a letter now if we have a positive case as well as what we shall be doing in that situation. We have had no positive cases so far but we must remain aware of the situation. Most schools both locally and nationally are in the same situation. If a test comes back negative then children will need to return to school as long as they feel well enough to do so and no other household members are showing symptoms. It is really important that we keep their learning on track. If your child is off school we shall send them work to complete through Class Dojo for them to work on. If you are unable to access it then let us know and we shall sort a paper copy for you. On occasion, we may send some assessments home for the children to complete. If we do then please allow the children to work on them by themselves. They are to help us identify each individual child's gaps in their learning so we can fill them as we go through the year.

Reading & Spellings

From next week we shall start sending reading books home. To help keep things as safe as we can with transferring things from school to home we shall need to change how we do this. Children will bring home their new books on a Monday. If they need to change their books they will need to bring it back into school on a Friday with their reading record. New books will then be issued after the weekend. Please only send their reading books and reading records in on a Friday. They do not need them during the week as we shall be reading school based books during the week. We shall only be changing book on these days so please try to remember to send them in on a Friday for changing.

If you have any of our reading books at home please can you send them back to school. We are missing about a third of the books we were expecting back and this will obviously impact on what we can send out.

Spelling sheets for the children will also be sent out to learn at home. We shall be doing the test on the Monday of each week and children's scores will be recorded in their reading records.



PE Kits

From Monday 5th October we are going to change how we do PE in school. We have been focussing on fitness so far but want to move our teaching into more areas based around skills. To help with this it would be beneficial for the children to be in their PE kits for the days that they have PE rather than school uniform. Teachers will communicate on Class Dojo which days of the week this is for each class. The children will need to come to school in their kit on those days. Please ensure it is suitable for the children to be outside in (joggers/tracksuit bottoms, hoodie/sweatshirt, t-shirt, outdoor trainers). I realise the change is a few weeks away I just wanted to give you chance to get anything for the children you may not already have. This approach is being used quite widely across schools and is working well.

Class Dojo & Reporting Illness

Thanks again to everyone who has signed up. It is working very well. Please can I ask that if your child is ill that you either email to office@wittering.peterborough.sch.uk or leave a message on the answerphone rather than notify class teachers on Dojo (they may not see it until later in the day).

Parent Consultations

Just to let you know that we are delaying our normal week of parent consultations this term into the second half term. This will give us chance to identify learning gaps and make a start on them and also hopefully give time for a potential change in guidance in order to help us hold them face to face with you.

School Meals

We are working hard on how we can offer a hot school lunch to our key stage 2 pupils. We think we have a way sorted and would like to trial it on Friday 25th September. You do not need to pre book just be aware of what is on the menu for that day and whether your child would like to have a school lunch rather than a packed lunch in Key Stage 2. A KS2 lunch costs £2.30 and should be paid for via ParentPay.

Governors

We need new Governors – if you have an interest in supporting the school, as a parent governor, or as someone who has skills and experience we particularly need regardless of whether you have children at the school, please consider being a Governor. You gain a new perspective on the school and have a real opportunity to support our children and wider community. You will need to attend 1 or 2 meetings each half term (usually 4-6pm) and visit the school during term time to see it in action. Training is provided, as is a ‘buddy’ governor to support you. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Jane or Steve, or any Governor (a list is on the school web site).

j.hunt@wittering.peterborough.school.uk

s.hobson@wittering.peterborough.school.uk

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 25th September

Next week we would normally be hosting our Macmillan Coffee morning in the main hall. As we are unable to do this we are going to have a non-uniform day in school instead. Children can come in non-uniform in exchange for a donation to the charity.

Birthdays

We know that sometimes children love to share sweets, etc on their birthdays with friends from there class. We can still do this but it will need to be in the form of a big sealed bag of sweets with mini bags inside, similar to the ones Haribo sell. We can then sort this for the children in the classroom.

Flu Vaccinations

The annual Flu vaccinations for children are still taking place this year. Parents will need to sign up for them using the following link <https://tinyurl.com/yauxhwsb> I have attached a letter with more details about them. They are run by the NHS rather than school however if you have any problems then please get in touch and we shall try to help where we can.

Yours sincerely

Rhys Thrower
Headteacher