



Swarland Primary School
Newton on the Moor
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE65 9JP
Telephone/Fax (01670) 787346
Email: admin@swarland.northumberland.sch.uk



1st November 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. I hope you and your family were able to have a well-earned rest over the half term. Hopefully, they have returned fresh and ready for their exciting new learning opportunities this half term.

Health & Safety Reviews

I wanted to reassure parents that our current risk assessments and procedures are constantly being reviewed in light of guidance from Local Authority, Government and Public Health regarding Covid-19. The Local Authority have recommended that schools implement a range of additional measures to help reduce the spread of infection and control the number of cases of Covid in Northumberland from 1st November.

These measures include reducing mixing between groups. Children will still be able to socialise outdoors at playtimes at this current time. School will operate a Reception/Key Stage 1 group and a KS2 group. These children will be separated in the hall at lunchtimes and assemblies with a 2m distance. PE will be held outdoors where possible and in a ventilated hall where this is not possible. Hand washing and sanitising will remain in place with staff lateral flow testing twice weekly. Social distancing with essential visitors and parents will be re-instated and all future events moved to virtual online with no large gatherings. This will include future parent consultations and performances. The Local Authority also recommends that pupils in KS2 who are household close contacts of a case of Covid (and exempt from isolation and may continue to attend school) to carry out daily lateral flow testing for 10 days after the onset of symptoms of the case in their household, and only attend school if their lateral flow test is negative. The Local Authority will inform us as soon as there are any changes to these recommendations. Children with Covid symptoms should remain at home and not come to school unless a negative PCR test has been obtained.

As a school we are trying to strike a balance between keeping children safe and supporting the children's education, mental health, well-being and opportunities to socialise with others in the school.





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Poppy Appeal

Our poppy appeal will begin this week to support the Royal British Legion. The usual bracelets, poppy badges, rulers and bands are available for a donation suggested between £1-£3.

Children In Need

On Friday 19th November, we will be marking Children In Need and raising money for this charity. Children may come to school in something spotty or wear Pudsey garments, or their own clothes for a donation. This year there will also be Pudsey items to purchase for a donation such as puzzle cubes, wristbands and rulers. Children may bring the money in and hand it to their class teacher on the day.

Anti-Bullying Week

Week commencing the 15th November is national Anti-Bullying Week. Classes will be addressing strategies to prevent anti-bullying and promote healthy relationships in their work this week.

Staffing

Some celebratory news to kick start the half term - Mrs Siswick has had a healthy baby girl and the family are doing well. I'm sure you will join us in sending them our best wishes.

Dates For Diaries

- 19th November - Children In Need dress up
- 15th November - Anti-Bullying Week
- 14th December - Christmas Lunch
- 17th December - Christmas celebrations - panto (visiting school) and party

Regards,

Louise Fletcher
Headteacher

