



Middleforth Church of England Primary School

Our Christian Value this half term is Respect



Friday 2nd October 2020

Thank you all so much for returning our questionnaires about the lockdown. We really appreciate that so many of you have taken the time to return them to us and we are humbled by the amazing messages of support that they carried. I am always so proud of the team here at Middleforth and the great job they do and even when they were all under enormous pressure, they gave everything they had to the school. I would just like to answer a couple of questions as others may also be interested in the responses. School meal vouchers or food packs are available to anyone who is in receipt of Free School Meals. This does not apply to children in Reception to Year 2 who access Universal Free School Meals, but only to people who have applied due to being in receipt of certain benefits. If you think you may be eligible but do not currently receive Free School Meals please speak to Mrs Boughey who can help you check your eligibility.

School did look carefully at the option of providing live lessons through google classrooms or zoom but during lockdown that was not something we could provide. This was consistent with other primaries in the area and agreed together. All of our staff were working in classrooms to support the children who were in school in reduced bubbles so we did not have any flexibility to provide this support.

A few parents have raised concerns that not all parents are wearing masks at the gate and are not social distancing. Please can we ask you all to respect each other and ensure you keep a safe distance and wear a face covering when in close contact with each other.

Can we also please ask outside of school children follow guidance and if asked to isolate do follow that.

This week we have had to close a bubble within school due to a positive case. We have had stringent measures in school to protect everyone and hopefully this means that due to a prompt closure and tight measures in school we have helped to keep the spread to a minimum. Thank you to everyone for your support and understanding. Please be assured at all times, that school continues to work with LCC and Public Health England to check that everything we are doing in school follows guidelines to the letter.

Star of the week

At the moment we are not able to have whole school assemblies to share Star of the Week, so for the moment Star of the Week for each class will be sent via Seesaw to the parents of the children who have been awarded the certificate so you can celebrate this achievement with them.

Parents evening

This year we will not be holding a face to face parents meeting in the Autumn term but we will be sending out a written report about your child. More details about this to follow nearer the time.

Nasal Flu Immunisations

Nasal Flu immunisations will be taking place at school on 30th November for Reception children through to Year 6. Further information regarding this will follow in due course.

Young Voices

Last year we took a large group of children to MEN arena to perform as part of Young Voices concert. This year the concerts have been moved back from early Spring to late Summer and a virtual concert will be happening in Spring Term. Our allocated concert date is May 25th and we will be sending out a letter inviting children to sign up. We will re-evaluate the decision to attend the concert nearer the time of course but in the meantime children may want to get involved. This will be open to children in years 4,5 and 6.

Foodbank help

We would like to restart our foodbank support to help the local foodbank and also anyone we come across through school who may need support during this very difficult time. We will have a box by the infant gate and on the key stage 2 playground at the end of each day. If you feel you are able to contribute anything please place your item into the box and once it has been in school for 72 hours we will distribute to the foodbanks or where appropriate. If you feel you would appreciate any support yourself in this way please can you contact Ms Collins in school and she will discuss any support she can offer.

School Meal Bookings – ParentPay

Hot meals will be available from Monday 28th September. Menus have been now been published online right up until week commencing 2nd November and you can make your advance bookings via ParentPay. **Please be aware that we have had to use pre-booked meals to determine order numbers for next week. We only have orders in for half of the children who will be having hot meals. These children will be served their choices first and children without orders but requiring a school meal, may not receive the meal of their choice.**

Wraparound Care

Thank you all for adhering to the rules of booking a week in advance, this has been incredibly helpful and made such a difference in planning our staffing numbers. Please can you continue do this as we make our plans every Friday afternoon for the week following. Breakfast and After School clubs are booked online via ScoPay. It is best to avoid using the app and going directly to the webpage.

Attendance/Absences

Please can we remind you of the importance in contacting school if your child is going to be absent on a school day. **If your child is going to be absent due to illness, you must contact the office before 9.00am.** If you are reporting outside of school hours or the phonenumber is busy, you can email, text or leave a message on the answerphone. If we have not heard from or been able to make contact with a parent/carer at the time of registration, we are obliged by LCC to report that child as missing.

If your child is going to be absent from school for a medical appointment, please advise the office of the date and time. Ideally, making appointments outside of school hours would be advisable, however, where this is unavoidable we need advance notification.

If you are taking your child out of school for any other reason, such as a holiday or celebration etc, you must complete a LCC leave of absence form which are available from the school office.

Parking

May we remind parents that parking on double yellow lines is not permitted and may endanger a child's life. We appreciate that school can be extremely busy during drop off and pick up times, but please be considerate of other parents and our children in order to keep everyone safe.

Secondary School Applications 2021

Parents of Year 6 pupils must apply for their secondary school choices by **31st October 2020**. The link to apply via the Lancashire County Council online application form can be accessed on our website under 'Admissions'.

Reception Admissions 2021

Online applications for reception class 2021 need to be made by **Friday 15th January 2021**. Please visit our website for links to the Lancashire County Council application form and further information.

Thank you again for your cooperation with following the current school arrangements due to Coronavirus. Have a great weekend and see you all on Monday.

Mrs Adams

Term Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Re-open on	Wednesday 2 nd September 2020
School closes on	Friday 23 rd October 2020 at 3.15pm
Mid Term Closure	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October 2020
Re-open on	Monday 2 nd November 2020
School closes on	Friday 18 th December 2020 at 2.00pm

SPRING TERM 2021

Re-open on	Monday 4 th January 2021
School closes on	Friday 12 th February 2021 at 3.15pm
Mid Term Closure	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 February 2021
Re-open on	Monday 22 nd February 2021
School closes on	Friday 26 th March 2021 at 2.00pm

SUMMER TERM 2021

Re-open on	Monday 12 th April 2021
May Day Closure	Monday 3 rd May 2021
School closes on	Friday 28 th May 2021 at 3.15pm
Mid Term Closure	Monday 31 st May – Tuesday 8 th June 2021
School reopens on	Wednesday 9 th June 2021
School closes on	Friday 16 th July 2021 at 2.00pm