



# Middleforth Church of England Primary School



*Our Christian Value this half term is Love*

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Dear Parents

I want to take this opportunity today to say a really big thank you to all of our parents for your amazing support this term. This has been a challenging term for us all. We have had to close 2 bubbles this term and this is hard for us as a school as well as for you as families, and the staff involved know first-hand how difficult it is to have a two-week isolation period put onto you. Thank you to everyone who is keeping us informed quickly of any changes in circumstances at home and keeping children off when required to do so, as this is really helping us to manage things in school as well as we can. I was so appreciative of the supportive way the Year 5 parents handled the closure this week, as the Year 6 parents did earlier in the term. We continue to hope and pray that this will be our final bubble closure and ask everyone to continue to follow the guidelines given, to help us try to limit our difficulties in school.

## **NEW SYSTEM FOR GOING HOME FROM MONDAY NEXT WEEK**

You have all been so supportive of our attempts to make coming in and going home safe and manageable. As the light is starting to go in an evening we are going to **trial** a new system next week for collection for children in **nursery, reception, year one and year two and also move the finish time for Key Stage two children to 3.15pm.**

At the end of the school day parents from reception should come onto the playground at 3pm. Year 1 and Year 2 should come onto the playground at 3.05pm. As always, I am afraid we cannot let dogs onto our playground, other than Lottie, who has full risk assessments and insurance to be on site. Parents should queue 2 metres apart, at the gate with steps, close to the bottom of the path and when directed go up the steps onto the reception playground maintaining an appropriate distance. There will be a member of staff at the gate to direct you at this point and we ask that only **ONE adult per family comes into the playground wearing a face covering.** Please then collect your child from their classroom door where the teacher will send them out promptly to you. This will save the children from standing in the rain for long periods waiting. If you are collecting a child from nursery, please tell the adult on the gate who will walkie-talkie through to the nursery class and have the child sent to the year 2 door ready for you.

Please be respectful of each other, and social distancing - you may have to wait a little while to go through the gates as they are narrow and please where you can keep moving to prevent any bottlenecks. This may take a day or two to streamline but we hope this will prove a system which avoids difficulties with darker weather on the outside path.

**From Monday EYFS at 3pm and Key Stage one children should be collected at 3.05pm and Key Stage two children should be collected at 3.15 from the upper playground. Please stick to your times so that we can prioritise Reception parents coming onto the playground. Staff at the gate will allow reception parents to come into school first.**

These changes will allow us to teach our Key stage 2 children until the usual collection time. Until now, we have been staggering their end time, but this is meaning a loss of a lot of teaching time each week, and as this situation is going on longer than we ever predicted we would like to be able to ensure children are not missing valuable lesson time at the end of the day any longer.

### **Governor ballot**

The ballot papers were counted on Monday and we were pleased to confirm that Charlotte Barrow and Emma Wear have been appointed as new Parent Governors. Thank you to everyone who voted and to all our nominees.

### **Children in Need**

We raised £243.23 for Children in Need! Thank you so much for your kind donations.

### **Cycle Challenge**

Our fundraising balance is £1,437! Thank you so much to everyone who has donated.

If you still wish to sponsor us the link can be found on our Facebook page or by following the link below. <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/middleforthcofeprimaryschool> or we can accept donations at the gate in a bucket which we decontaminate before counting!

### **School Photos**

The deadline for returning your school photograph orders is **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**.

### **Nasal Flu Immunisations**

Nasal Flu immunisations will be taking place at school on **30th November** for Reception children through to Year 6. **Year 5 will have their vaccinations when they return to school.** We are awaiting a new date and will let you know as soon as it is confirmed. The link will close on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at midnight. If your child has already had the Nasal Flu vaccine since September 2020, please disregard this. If you have any problems accessing the link please telephone 0333 358 3397, option 6.

<https://www.nhsimms.uk/FLU/information?Id=119382&Type=FLU>

### **Drinks in school.**

Please remember to only provide water for your children for their classroom drink, as sweet drinks are causing a number of problems in the classroom.

### **Free School Meals (Pupil Premium)**

Just a reminder that in addition to all infant children (Reception to Y2) being eligible for Universal Free School Meals, all children from **Reception to Year 6** may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

In addition to your child receiving free school meals, schools receive valuable funding of £1,345 per pupil to help improve progress for children who may need it. You can apply to check your eligibility at any time, as understandably, family circumstances may change, especially in the current uncertain times we are facing.

To apply please click here or speak to the school office if you need any help:

[https://lancashire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_pupil\\_premium](https://lancashire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_school_meals_and_pupil_premium)

### **Road crossing**

Please can everyone crossing Marshalls Brow do so at the cone and wait for the Lollipop Man to safely walk them across.

### **Foodbank help**

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. **We do have food available for our school families. 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, ‘New Menus’**



The Autumn/Winter menu started on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November and will run into the Spring term. Please remember to continue keeping your bookings up to date via ParentPay, as far as you possibly can as it really is a great help.

***Christmas Dinner for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December is being added to ParentPay. Apologies, but if you had previously made a booking for this day, you will need to rebook for Turkey or Quorn Christmas Dinner. There are no other menu choices available on this day, however, children can still bring their own packed lunch from home and sit with their friends for lunch. Please be aware that we use pre-booked meals to determine the kitchen food order numbers for the following week. Children who don't have a pre-booked 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.

**You may be eligible for tax free childcare through Gov.uk where you'll set up an online childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay an additional £2 to use to pay for your wrap around care. To find out more click [here](#).**

### **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.

### **Reception Admissions 2021**

Online applications for reception class 2021 need to be made by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. Please visit our website for links to the Lancashire County Council application form and to view our new school video.

*Thank you as always for your continued cooperation and support with following the current school arrangements due to Coronavirus. Have a great weekend and keep safe.*

**Mrs Adams**

**Dates for your diary:**

Date	Activity
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations – Reception to Year 6 (not year 5)
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 – Vision Screening
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day (Class celebrations)
Week commencing 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity performances to be viewed on-line
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner
18 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for Christmas
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	School re-opens
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Deadline for reception 2021 applications

**Term Dates****AUTUMN TERM 2020**

School closes on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**SPRING TERM 2021**

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

**SUMMER TERM 2021**

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

**AUTUMN TERM 2021**

Re-open on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021  
 School closes on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 at 3.15pm  
 Mid Term Closure Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
 Re-open on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021  
 School closes on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 2.00pm

**SPRING TERM 2022**

Re-open on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
 School closes on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 3.15pm  
 Mid Term Closure Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022  
 Re-open on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022  
 School closes on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 at 2.00pm

**SUMMER TERM 2022**

Re-open on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
 May Day Closure Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022  
 School closes on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 3.15pm  
 Mid Term Closure Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
 School re-opens on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
 School closes on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 at 2.00pm