



# Middleforth Church of England Primary School



*Our Christian Value this half term is Courage*

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

Dear Parents

I hope everyone is well and managing to cope with this current lockdown both physically and mentally. Please remember even though your child may not be in school we are here to help and support you and will do whatever we can during this difficult period. If your child is in school we are trying to keep things as normal as possible for everyone. It is really important that everyone understands that the learning for everyone is the same. Children in school are doing the same work as those at home. In school children are supervised by an adult in class as they complete their work but there is no preferential treatment for children in school and those at home will not fall behind those in school.

If you have a key worker place please only ask for a place for your child in school if you have no other option for their care. This means that there is no one at home to look after them as everyone in the house is at work as a key worker. If you do not need provision every day please only use us on the days you need care. This helps keep our numbers lower in school and greatly reduces the risk of transmission in school and the risk of us having to close a bubble. Most of our bubbles are now full and at absolute capacity and it helps us significantly if a place isn't used every day. It is safe for children to be in school because we are keeping the numbers to a sensible maximum level and we have excellent control measures in place.

## **Home learning**

Our teachers are busy setting work on seesaw every day and we are required by the government to provide a set amount of work each day for your child. We will keep in touch with you on seesaw and check in on any work that your child does, and if we haven't seen you log on or heard from you for a few days we will contact to check everything is OK but please know that we fully understand that you will all have different requirements from school and your pressures at home are all different and we do not expect you to do everything we send every day on the same day. Please be kind to yourselves and your families. We know that some days you might not be able to do the work, you might choose to do something completely different, you might only want to do part of it THAT IS FINE. You know what works for your child and for your family and we understand.

Please remember that in school we usually talk the children through work and then ask them to work on their own offering them help when they need it. There is not someone with them all the time and we encourage them to think for themselves and work independently. It is really important that even at home, where there is an adult available that the children do still do some work on their own and retain their independence in learning. When they return they will not have a one to one adult working with them all the time.

When the teachers look at the work the children have done in school we take into account how much help they had in order to assess their ability and how to move their learning forward so please try not to do the work for them or our assessments of how they are doing will not be at all right.

Please also remember that there are lots of things your child can do which will help with their development which will support the work we set. The teacher will give you ideas of things you can do which will really help them in school. For me reading or being read to is the most important thing for a child as building up their skills in reading and comprehension help in every subject they learn. Remember that doing things with you in the house or the garden are just as valuable and develop other important skills. Whatever you are doing with your child at home will be helping them, making them feel safe and enriching their lives. Teach them to make a sandwich, bake a cake, make you a cup of tea (depending on their age of course). Enjoy your time together and do special things together and feel you can share this with us on seesaw as well as their work and we will love seeing what you have done. We are all balancing our lives too and we understand.

If you have any worries about anything you are doing or you want any advice please contact us, don't struggle and don't worry. This will be over eventually and we will do everything we can to help the children get back on track with their learning. They will be OK and they will get over this period.

### **Contacts**

Please send requests for places, changes to your requests and any general questions to:  
[covid@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:covid@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk) or telephone the office on 01772 746024.

### **Reporting Covid**

Please continue to let us know if your child has tested positive for Coronavirus or has been in contact with a positive case regardless of whether you are home learning or in school. Please email [covid@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:covid@middleforth.lancs.sch.uk) .  
If your child is due to be in school please stay at home to isolate as per the guidelines and notify school immediately.

### **Nursery children – flu vaccinations – message from NHS England**

Parents and guardians of young children are being reminded that children aged 2 and 3 years of age are entitled to a free flu vaccine this winter. For more information about the flu and the vaccination programme go to:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>

### **Thank you - From Churches Together in Penwortham Foodbank**

Churches Together would like to thank everyone for their generosity: *We have been almost overwhelmed by the gifts from the communities of Penwortham and district this Christmas. Thank you for the part you have played in this: it is much appreciated both by the volunteers at the foodbank and by those who have benefitted.*

### **Preston to Paris Cycle Fundraiser – REFUNDS**

Thank you so much to all who have re-donated their refunds from the Justgiving page so far. Everyone who previously donated has now received refunds back into their account. Please can you help us by contacting any of your family or friends who also kindly donated to let them know. **Refunds can be donated to our new fundraising page:** <https://chuffed.org/project/middleforth-preston-to-paris-cycle-fundraiser>

The link is also on our Middleforth Facebook page.

### **Free School Meals**

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, they will continue to receive their lunch in school. We are currently providing food packs for children who are home learning to be collected from the school office.

### **School meals during lockdown**

Children in school will be asked each day to make their meal choice. Please pay as usual via Parentpay for children not in infants or in receipt of free school meals.

### **Wraparound Care**

For this half-term wraparound care is available from 7.30-4.30pm. Please book and pay as usual online via ScoPay.

### **Attendance/Absences during lockdown**

If your child is due to be in school and they are going to be absent you must contact the office before 9.00am.

*Have a lovely weekend,*

*Mrs Adams*