



Middleforth Church of England Primary School



Our Christian Value this half term is Courage

Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents

We are now halfway through this half term. We are so proud of all of our children and how well they are engaging with the work at home. Please remember there is no pressure at all to do more than you can do at any time. We understand that as the weeks go on this gets harder and harder to manage, and we all hope that the whole situation will soon start to become more positive and life can start to come back to a more normal way for us all.

We understand that for some parents having your child in school can seem like the better option for them but please believe us that for the moment only children who need to be in school should be in. The children in school are doing the same work as the children at home and your child will not be getting further behind by being at home.

Thank you to parents who have a place in school for only using the provision when you need it, as this means that our bubbles are not at full capacity every day and is helping us to keep our staff and the children in school as safe as we can. We are really sorry but we cannot fill those spaces created by a child not using their place on a particular day with another child, thereby creating a rota system for places, as this increases the size of that bubble and the amount of exposure the children and staff in school would have, and it is really important at this time to keep that risk to a minimum. Places in school have been allocated according to the criteria provided by the DfE and as this has filled our bubbles we unfortunately cannot offer additional places in school.

This week we were told by our Education Secretary that schools will be given two weeks notice before everyone will be invited to return to school, which hopefully means we will be given sufficient time to prepare for the day we all hope can arrive soon.

Thank you so much for all of your feedback on our remote learning. We are so pleased that most of you are finding this the right balance. We understand it can't be perfect for everyone, but we really are doing our best to support everyone in the best way possible. Teachers are always happy to help out if you need their support through Seesaw. A summary of our remote learning offer is now on our website under the coronavirus tab (I look forward to the day I can delete that particular tab, as it means life has returned to normal).

Young Voices

I am sure it will come as no surprise to find out that Young Voices which has been planned for June 2020 has now been postponed until Jan/Feb 2022. The concerts will have the same songs as children are already practicing. Once we have the new date we will let you know but in the meantime carry on singing!

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. If your child is due to be in school please stay at home to isolate as per the guidelines and notify school immediately.

Outside Area

We have started to look at options for our new playground and outside provision which is very exciting (see below for our other project) - we would like to start this work in the spring when the weather is better and hopefully things are little more 'normal'.

We've had a great response from everyone who has re-donated to our new **fundraising page**:

<https://chuffed.org/project/middleforth-preston-to-paris-cycle-fundraiser> (also on our FB page)

Thank you so much for your support, it is greatly appreciated!

Outdoor nurture/chill area

We were really excited this week to find out that we have been awarded £1000 from our bid to Tesco to support the creation of an outdoor nurture/chill out area. This will be outside the school hall where the greenhouse used to be. This has been cleared by our lovely site supervisor in the last couple of weeks and we are now starting to look at developing this into somewhere children can go and sit quietly at playtimes and lunchtimes and play games, read, do a bit of gardening or have a chat to Ms Collins, Sharon or Lottie. We know this will be a very popular space, mostly if Lottie is there!

Free School Meals

We are now providing vouchers for children who are home learning which are emailed.

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