

THE FEDERATION OF THE DOWNS & NORTHBOURNE CEP SCHOOLS

"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible." (Matthew: 17 v20)

Newsletter – Term Two December 2020

Coronavirus:

We have a number of schools within the Deal area who have had to take action and close year groups, or even whole schools, this week. We must all be vigilant and not become complacent. We must be ready for a confirmed case of Coronavirus at our school. Please remember to alert the school as soon as possible if your child tests positive for Coronavirus – you may get test results out of school hours, if this is the case please phone 07756807060. If you need to leave a message, include your name, your child's name and a contact number to call you back on. Please note this number is only for reporting a **positive pupil** test result out of school hours (evenings/weekends/holidays). At all other times continue to phone the school office.

Sickness and Diarrhea:

In line with advice from the school nursing team we have updated our policy with regards to the time your child needs to be off school having suffered a bout of sickness or diarrhea. They should now stay off for **48 hours** after the last bout of sickness, diarrhea or both.

PE kit:

Children need to ensure they have layers for outside winter PE lessons. This includes jogging bottoms and jumpers over shorts and tee-shirts. Please also provide a spare pair of shoes, in a carrier bag, on PE days.

New Year R Admissions 2021

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 it is time to think about a school place for September 2021.

Apply to <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places> between **5th November 2020 and 15th January 2021**.

Tours have been postponed until December. A virtual tour is available on our website. Appointments for tours in December and January can be made by phoning the school office 01304 372486.

CHRISTMAS

Inevitably, Christmas in school will look different this year, but we will be celebrating Christmas in a special week at the end of term including Christmas activities, a pantomime and virtual church services for the children.

Some key events include:

Christmas dinner day – 16 12 20

The Christmas week menu has been sent out. Orders for this week need to be completed by 4th December so that whole school meals can put their food order in. All meals booked, need to be paid for by this date too.

Christmas jumper day – 16 12 20

On Christmas dinner day (16/12/20) the children are invited to wear their Christmas jumper to school. If they do not have a Christmas jumper they are welcome to wear a Christmas accessory such as Christmas hats, scarf, socks, tie etc. Apart from the jumper/accessories the children should still be wearing the rest of their school uniform.

Pantomime and Snack Boxes - PTA

On Monday 14th December the children across our school will be watching a streamed version of Sleeping Beauty that has been made bespoke to our school by Bigfoot Arts. The PTA are providing snack packs at a cost of £1.50 each. The pack will contain a bag of sweet popcorn, a small bag of Haribo and a carton of juice as well as a Christmas gift! If you would like your child to have a snack pack, please submit your order and pay the £1.50 on the school gateway app. This will go live on the app on Monday 30th November and will close on Monday 7th December. We cannot take any orders after this period.

Last day of term – 18th December – see collection times on the diary page (*starting with Reception at 1.15pm*)



Why should we be compassionate?

*Discuss, with your family, what this means to you.....
Share your best examples with your class teacher*

Remote Learning

In September 2020, all our classes returned to full-time education following the Covid 19 closure in March. Although we hope that the majority of our children will now have an uninterrupted experience, there is the possibility that an individual child, a class bubble, or indeed the whole school, will need to self-isolate for a period of time.

Each year group will post weekly plans with links to resources and experiences that will support and consolidate your child's learning should they be required to work from home.

You can also access learning resources through your child's log in to purple mash (whole school), 10tick (Years 3-6) and Spag.com (years 5 and 6).

There are also numerous links on our school website to different learning resources

- pupil zone tab/home learning opportunities
- pupil zone tab/online safety
- curriculum, assessment and learning tab/help your child
- curriculum, assessment and learning tab/RE and collective worship/keep praying

Children should also continue with their reading, number work and learning their times tables.

Isolation food boxes are available for children who are in receipt of free school meals but families need to arrange for someone who is not isolating to collect the box from school. More information is available once a period of self isolation is confirmed.

Year 6 Responsibilities

Our year 6 community have put themselves forward for a number of varied roles and responsibilities within school. This year we will have house captains, sports captains, ECO and JRSO's, an environment team, forest school, charity and digital teams. We are looking forward to them all leading on numerous initiatives throughout the year.

Notable Achievements

We are still celebrating our pupils' achievements in after school activities so please do share to get a mention here:

Sky (Y6) – has written a book “Stars in the Night Sky” which is going to be published in the new year
Natalie (Y6) - has illustrated the book for Sky
Amazing achievement – well done

Cashless school

Due to the current situation we are reducing cash handling in school. Parents and carers are asked to use the School Gateway App to make payments where possible unless alternative arrangements have been made with the office. If you need any help with the School Gateway App, please contact the school office to check we have the correct log in details for you as your email address and mobile number must match what we have on our system. You can pay for school dinners direct to whole school meals - Visit their website <https://wholeschoolmeals.co.uk>

Parking considerations

As a school we try to work closely with our immediate neighbours to ensure we establish a harmonious relationship. This can be tested quite a bit during the school run when there is inconsiderate parking, ignoring of road signs and cars causing damage or obstruction to other vehicles. In recent weeks, there have been numerous phone calls to the school about parking in an area marked “private parking for residents only”, where residents have been unable to leave their property for appointments due to being blocked in and damage has been caused to cars. Please do observe signage and if you do knock into another car, it is courteous to leave a note for the owner. Dover parking services and the police have been informed of all these incidences. Please help us to be kinder to our neighbours every day on the school run.

Milk – Children can have milk at morning break:

- Free milk for children under the age of five
- Free milk for children who are currently a free school meal child
- £1.10 a week for children aged five or older and not a free school meal child.
- If your child is a pupil premium child contact school if you would like milk for your child at no cost to you

For more information contact the school office or reaster at www.coolmilk.com

Dates for diary on the next page

DATES FOR DIARY

Term One 1st September 2020 – 23rd October 2020

Half term break 24th October – 1st November 2020

Term Two 2nd November – 18th December 2020

Christmas break 19th December – 3rd January 2021

Term Three 4^h January – 12th February 2021

Half term break 13th February – 21st February 2021

Term Four 22nd February – 1st April 2021

Easter break 2nd April – 18th April 2021

Term Five 19th April – 28th May 2021

Half term break 29th May – 6th June 2021

Term Six 7th June – 21st July 2021

Staff Development Days when school is closed to children

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Monday 2nd November 2020

Monday 22nd February 2021

Friday 25th June 2021

Monday 28th June 2021

New academic Year 2020-2021

Term Two

Wednesday 16th December

Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

Friday 18th December

Last day of term two – children can be collected as follows:

Reception 1.15pm

Years 5 and 6 1.20pm

Years 3 and 4 1.30pm

Years 1 and 2 1.40pm

Using the same gates as normal end of day

Christmas services to be confirmed subject to guidance but unlikely to be able to invite parents

Term Three

Monday 4th January

Children start

Monday 11th January

Year 5 Forest School starts

Friday 12th February

Last day of term three – normal finish

Term Four

Monday 22nd February

School closed to children – training day

Tuesday 23rd February

Children start

Monday 1st March

Year 1 Forest School starts

Thursday 4th March

World Book Day

Friday 12th March

Comic Relief TBC

Thursday 1st April

Last day of term four - children can be collected from 1.30pm.

Term Five

Monday 19th April

Children start

Monday 19th April

Year 3 Forest School starts

All of May

Year 2 statutory assessment month

Monday 3rd May

Bank Holiday

Monday 10th May

Year 6 SATS all week

Friday 28th May

Last day of term five – normal finish

Term Six

Monday 7th June

Children start

Monday 7th June

Year 6 Forest School

Monday 7th June

Year 4 Multiplication Tests all week

Monday 7th June

Year 1 Phonic assessments all week