



**Blakesley CE Primary School
The Green
Blakesley
NORTHANTS
NN12 8RD**

Newsletter 5: September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Harvest collections

As from Monday the school will be collecting 'harvest' donations of tinned items and food in packets. We are happy to receive items in school but for an added safety measure there will also be collection baskets outside the main entrance to the school and the side gate on Hillcroft View each morning.

A Harvest Festival Family Communion is being held at St Mary's Church on October 11th 10:30am. Some of our pupils are leading part of the service. Everyone is welcome to attend this family service. 'Social distancing' measures will be in place.

The school would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new Reverend Sue Stanley to our local community. We look forward to continuing our close working relationship with the church. Already plans are in place for new projects and ventures.

Application for places

Applications for Primary and Secondary school places can now be made for 2021 Admissions.

Parents/carers of children in current year 6 of Primary School will need to apply for their Secondary School place by 5pm on Saturday 31 October 2020.

Parents/carers of children who have their 4th birthday between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 need to apply for their school place by 5pm on Friday 15 January 2021.

The school admissions website is www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions

Parents are encouraged to apply online. Download the "Applying for a Secondary School Place in Northamptonshire 2020-2021 prospectus and search for details of schools on the website. Parents who apply online will receive an email in confirmation of their application. Paper forms are available if access to the internet is limited. The return address can be found on the form itself. If parents prefer to complete a paper application, these forms are available to print from the website or can be posted on request.

[Tel:03001261000](tel:03001261000) or email: admissions@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk

Coats

We are trying to ensure all the pupils get outside as much as possible. The weather has clearly taken a downward turn, so changeable as well as being much wetter and colder. Therefore, please ensure your child is not only warm enough but does come to school with a suitable coat.

Inter School Cross Country

Y2 to Y6 have been entered into the Sponne Cross Country Challenge which is an Inter school competition of a run/power walk for 12 mins. Classes have begun practising in lesson times. Teachers will record the distance pupils run/walk in the time period of 12mins. The data will be recorded, collated and sent to Sponne to analyse. We are entering lots of different categories.

Please note this is not a traditional style running race. Distances covered by pupils are the measurements recorded. There is no pressure on making children run, just an encouragement to participate together, to have a go and have fun.

Final entries by class teachers have to be submitted by Fri 23rd October.

Flu Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will be going ahead on Friday 9th October.

Return of forms

Thank you for the quick return of the 'Temperature' and Live learning forms. If there are forms still to be handed in to the office, please do so as quickly as possible.

Pick-ups and collections

As much as we actively encourage our children to be mature and independent it is important for the office to receive 'adult' confirmation of pick up arrangements made rather than relying on your child explaining to the teacher. This will avoid any confusion and keeps every one safe. Thank you.

A further COVID reminder

Last week the government issued a guidance letter to parents and guardians on testing for coronavirus. The letter can be found at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardianswhen-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>

An important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. However, you should only book a test if your child has any of these 3 coronavirus symptoms:

- 1.** a high temperature: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back.
- 2.** a new continuous cough: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- 3.** a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal.

Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.

If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly.

Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the 3 symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.

Future dates

- 5-9 th Oct. Harvest donations
- 9th Oct Flu Vaccinations
- 13th-15th Oct. Parents feedback evenings
- 20th -22nd Oct. Parents feedback evenings
- 23rd Oct. Prospective parent video release
- 31st Oct. Closing date for secondary school applications

If there are aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss or if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Laurie Hill
Interim Headteacher