



Newsletter

Term: Autumn 2020

Issue No: 5

Date: 6th November

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

We returned this week with news of another national lockdown. However, school will continue as normal and this includes the school clubs that have been running, as well as Moles and Breakfast/Early Birds Clubs. The key change for us this half term has been the introduction of masks in the playground at the end of the day. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation. This has been introduced in response to a review of our risk assessments and the fact that cases in the local area have risen dramatically in the last few weeks. We will continue to review our systems and procedures and as soon as we feel this is no longer necessary we will let you know. Other than that, our systems remain, along with thorough cleaning of classrooms and learning areas every day. We must say a huge thank you to BERT, specifically for loaning us the use of their fogging machine at the end of last half term, but also for their ongoing support through these challenging times.

Polite reminders and information

We have been asked by several telephone call from parents asking for clarification of the rules regarding isolation.

Please follow the link below for the guidance, which is very clear:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In addition...

We would appreciate it if parents could please avoid coming into the school offices, if at all possible:

- To pass on a message or information please call or email
- Use the letter boxes to drop off letters etc.
- Please help your child to remember everything they will need, rather than dropping off forgotten items throughout the day.
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Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

MS Teams & Online Homework

Thank you to those parents who have been in contact over online homework, learning and resources. This has been due to a few queries relating to issues such as logins, how to access the work set, and then how to return work to school. We are very aware that parents may be experiencing other specific issues and difficulties and Mrs Blumire, our Computing Lead, is keen to provide any support for parents which may be needed. We would like to put together some fact sheets/FAQs in order to support with online learning, so if there are any specific things you would like help or advice with, regarding use of Teams or Streams, please let us know by completing the form via the link below by Monday 9th November.

<https://tinyurl.com/yy732ewt>

Dates for the Diary

Friday 13th Nov Children in Need
Tuesday 17th Nov P/T Consultations
Thursday 19th Nov P/T Consultations
More information coming out next week

Friday 18th Dec Break up
Monday 4th Jan INSET Day

Children in Need - Friday 13th November

As it is Children in Need next Friday we would like to invite children to wear mufti for the day. Please do not send in money with the children on this occasion. Donations can be made via Tucasi.

Here is the link to the Autumn/Winter edition of Family Grapevine.

<https://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/east-surrey/see-a-copy/>

FONDS UPDATE

BAGS 2 SCHOOL

After a very soggy bags 2 school we are pleased to say we raised an amazing £210!

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Thanks so much for getting the artwork designs back to us - North Downs definitely has some budding artists! You can still place additional orders online if you fancy an extra mug or gift tag!

FANCY DRESS 5k

We are extending this event to help keep the children entertained during lockdown! More details will be sent out separately. Remember one lucky entrant will be in with the chance of winning a "Fit Bit Ace 2". Thanks to those who have already completed the challenge and been sponsored.

As always thanks for your continued support. It's a tough time for everyone so we really appreciate you helping us to continue to fundraise.

This week the children have undertaken our baseline, prior to beginning the WOW challenge next week. Please see below a message from Living Streets, who organise the WOW challenge.

As you know, WOW is a pupil-led initiative where children self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel sustainably (walk, cycle or scoot) once a week a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that easy! What are the benefits of walking to school? Walking to school helps children feel happier and healthier and they arrive refreshed, fit and ready to learn. More families walking means fewer cars on the road during the school run, helping to reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates.

What if you can't walk to school?

Remember, if you live too far away or don't have time to walk the whole way to school, you can Park and Stride to help your child earn their WOW badge. Park or hop off public transport at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Is walking to school safe at this time?

Walking to school remains an effective way to reduce congestion and improve road safety at the school gates, while increasing physical activity and benefitting pupil wellbeing. The government is actively working with schools and local authorities to encourage families to walk to school whenever they can during this time. However, it is important that measures in place to protect everyone's health are always observed. Living Streets understands that schools face unique challenges at present, which create uncertainty for staff, pupils, and families. We are committed to helping schools adapt to changing circumstances, ensuring that everyone involved in our walk to school initiative stays safe.

Did you know?

The WOW badges are made using excess yoghurt-pot material previously destined for landfill and are produced in the UK, minimising our carbon footprint. The packaging we use is 100% biodegradable. Living Streets is proud to have found a brilliant use for landfill material. Thousands of schools and around one million pupils are enjoying the benefits of walking to school across the UK.

For more information visit: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/>

