



Weekly Bulletin –16th April 2021

Headteacher's Message

Welcome back to the summer term. We look forward to a hard-working, enjoyable and productive term ahead. I would also like to use this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support. It has been a difficult year, but we are grateful for the gradual return to normality as we progress through the roadmap.

We have spent some time in school this week remembering the life of service of the Duke of Edinburgh and the significant moment in the life of the nation that his passing marks. We give thanks for life well lived.

Covid remains with us. I again thank parents for working with us to keep school as Covid-secure as possible.

Please remember to:

- strictly observe drop off and pick up times
- leave the school site and surrounding area as soon as you have collected your children
- supervise your children if they are waiting to collect/drop off a sibling at later staggered time
- ensure your children stand with you and are not running around the waiting area.

Best wishes and stay safe

Mr Tait

Covid-19 key messages from Durham County Council

For further advice, guidance and support, please visit: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus>

FOSS

FOSS work extremely hard to support the life of our school. Many of the activities we offer would not be possible if it were not for the fundraising efforts of our FOSS volunteers. Events such as Christmas parties are supported by FOSS. FOSS are currently seeking support from parents with a number of roles. These include treasurer, secretary and chairperson. If anyone is interested in supporting the work of FOSS then please contact school or speak with any member of FOSS.

School Closure - Local and Police and Crime Commissioner elections- Thursday 6th May 2021

I have been informed by Durham County Council that they require the school building for use as a polling station on 6th May. We have challenged the decision and asked the Council to look at alternative options. They advise us that this is not possible and are therefore exercising their legal

right to make use of the premises. As a result, school will therefore be closed to all pupils on 6th May. We will provide remote learning for the children.

Online Safety

We would like to remind parents that we do not allow pupils to bring mobile phones, tablets or cameras into the school as they can distract pupils from their learning and damage children's privacy.

If, in exceptional circumstances, a child needs to bring a phone into school they must hand the phone to the school office for safekeeping during the school day. The school may impose sanctions on pupils who break these rules.

Parents will also want to help ensure that their children are safe when using their phone or tablet at home, and will want to know about what they are sharing online. Any Social Media site used by children will have inherent risks; the website net-aware.org.uk provides advice on many popular sites along with a suggested minimum age.

If our pupils see unpleasant or hurtful comments they have been taught to take a screenshot and show a trusted adult. We will treat cyberbullying seriously and may impose sanctions on pupils.

Dates

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Thursday 6th May 2021 – School Closure (Local and Police and Crime Commissioner elections)

Christian Values

This half term we are focussing on Thankfulness as our whole school Christian Value. We will be looking at why being thankful is important and discussing what the children are thankful for in their lives.

We reflect on occasions when we may want to express love and thanks and consider being thankful for the good things that happen each day in our community.

We would like our children to continue their reflection and experience at home.

Some things to think about:

- How can we express our appreciation and thankfulness in the life of the school?
- How can we demonstrate that we see the good things of life as a blessing and a gift rather than a right?
- How can we be thankful for more than just material possessions?

Worship will take place in class bubbles and will be led by pupils and school staff, with video contributions from Fr. Peter and Fr. Bill.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school.
Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.