



Weekly Bulletin –23rd April 2021

Headteacher's Message

Thank you again for your efforts to keep school Covid safe. It is important that we continue to work together for the wellbeing of the whole community.

As we progress, through the roadmap it will be possible for school to begin, slowly, to return to the some of the activities and systems we had before the pandemic. The Government's safety requirements for school operating remain the same and, at current, there is no indication that the bubble system, staggered drop off and pick up times, the enhanced hygiene processes etc will change before the summer break. Things of course, can and do change, often at short notice. We have been able to make a number of tentative steps. Class bubble sports coaching activities within school have been able to restart in a Covid-secure way and all music lessons have restarted face to face. We have undertaken some 'virtual' educational visits and more are planned where they will support the curriculum. We are planning the possibility of some local educational visits, where locations are suitable, for the second half of the summer term and will keep you updated as planning progresses.

I draw your attention to the information from DCC regarding Covid testing below. Following concerns raised by some residents, I also ask parents to be mindful of social distancing and supervision within the playpark and wider estate.

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>

In line with the roadmap out of lockdown Durham County Council are now offering free LFD testing and home testing kits to residents. Find out more and book appointments

www.durham.gov.uk/CovidLFT

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.

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.