Rufford Park Post





Issue 3 25th September 2020

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Headteacher's news:

I do hope this newsletter finds you and your families well.

As the leaders of the country continue to respond to the increased infection rate in England, the teachers and staff in school have continued to remain focussed on the education of our brilliant children. I believe that it is crucial that we keep our children in school so that we can keep up the momentum and close any gaps that may have appeared in the second half of the previous academic year. The children in Y1-Y6 have been completing assessments this week and the teachers will use these to make judgements on the standard that each child is working at in Reading, Writing and Maths. Some of this information will be shared with you during the Parents' Evening telephone consultations that will take place in a few weeks time.

We have had some pupil and staff absence this week—mainly related to heavy colds. This has led to some uncertainty as whether this poorliness is related to COVID-19. I think that this is a pattern in many schools and this has prompted the DfE to publish some guidance for parents - 'letter for schools and colleges to share with parents' - which explains when a child requires a coronavirus test and a reminder about what the symptoms of coronavirus are. The intention of the letter is to support parents and carers in identifying when their child needs to self-isolate as a result of displaying coronavirus symptoms and answer some of the questions parents may have around testing.

As a parent of two primary aged children myself, I found this interesting, useful and reassuring to read; especially the lines: '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.' At the same time, this does not mean that we need to be less vigilant and cautious and the fact that Leeds is about to have further intervention restrictions put in force (see today's news) means that we should all remain alert.

Take care, stay safe and have a good weekend.

Staffing news: You may have noticed that there are a number of jobs advertised in the <u>Vacancies</u> section of the website. These relate to the news of Mrs Stephenson in last week's issue. Recruitment has continued to take up a lot of my time this week as we prepare for the retirement of Mr Todd at the end of October. There will be a further jobs added to the website today related to the office restructuring that governors have agreed to as a result of our very experienced and popular School Business Manager leaving the school.

REMINDER: If you haven't done so already, please click on your child's class website page to see their newsletter.

Nursery Reception Year1 Pear Year 1/2 Lime Year 2 Cherry
Year 3 Willow Year 3/4 Cedar Year 4 Beech
Year 5 Oak Year 5/6 Ash Year 6 Maple

This week in assembly we focussed on being positive and helping others when we might have a grey cloud hanging over our day.

Telephone: 0113 3910906

FORP - Newsletter:

This week we sent out the Friends of Rufford Park Newsletter. If you did not see it, it can be viewed on our website by clicking here. There is an AGM on Thursday



1st October at 7:00pm via Zoom. Email **ruffordparkpta@gmail.com** if you would like to attend this meeting. It would be great to see as many faces as possible there.

Childhood Nasal Flu Vaccination:

IntraHealth Immunisation team have been commissioned by NHS England to deliver the flu vaccination programme to schools this year. Flu immunisations will be carried out in school on Wed 21 October for children in Reception to Year 6. Further information will be sent out in due course.

Guiseley High School are hosting virtual open evenings on Monday 28 September and Tuesday 29 September for Y6 parents. Details have been texted out this week but if you missed this, you can access the information in the News section of the website. Benton Park staff are visiting school next week to talk to Y6 'socially distanced' in the hall.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' Evening: the letter for Parents' Evening will be sent out on Monday.
The most likely organisation for these consultations will be prearranged telephone calls between 4:00-6:00pm over 3 consecutive nights from:
Mon 12 - Wed 14 October