

Thursday, 27th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank You

We have now reached the end of the half term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. The majority of the children have now been back in school for a sustained period of time and we are starting to see them building on their learning, day by day and week by week; they are gradually working and concentrating for longer periods of time and this is really encouraging for the remainder of the term. The children have worked really hard and we are very proud of the way they have committed to the return to school. We know that it has not been easy for everyone and there have been some ups and downs along the way. Thank you for supporting your child and the school when these challenges have arisen.



Personal Development Goals

This week's personal development strength is **honesty**. We played an honesty game in collective worship on Monday and you might like to ask your child about it and try this at home (you will need some chocolate buttons!). We have considered the importance of being true to ourselves and understanding the complexities of 'truth'. You could help your child understand the value of honesty by praising him/her for telling the truth, even when owning up is difficult! Well done to the following children who have demonstrated their ability to be honest and truthful:



Reception	Jessica: for being a reliable and trustworthy member of class
Year 1	Lyla: for being honest and reliable
Year 2	Jessica: for being a trustworthy member of Class 2
Year 3	Louie: for being a kind and honest member of Class 3
Year 4	Max: for being a helpful and honest friend
Year 5	Collina: for being responsible and honest
Year 6	Malak: for being honest and for being a superstar! ✨

Routines

We plan to keep as much as possible the same for the children when they return after the Whit half term, so our morning drop off and afternoon pick up arrangements will continue. Thank you for keeping your distance at these times, for wearing your face coverings and for minimising your time on the school site; please continue to do these things when school re-opens on 7th June. Thank you.



READING CHAMPIONS



Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Thomas W	Georgia	Emily	Lucie

Diary Dates

The staff met earlier in the week to look through the school calendar for the rest of the year. Below is a summary of the diary dates for June and July. Further details will be provided nearer the time, but it's worth bearing in mind that any plans we have made are subject to change. Please make sure you read the newsletters every Friday so you know what's happening each week.

Date	Event and Details
7 th June	School re-opens for the final half term of the year Sports clubs resume this week <i>Your child's place in netball/basketball (Y5/6 Mon), multi skills (Y3/4 Wed) and dance (YR/1/2) will continue unless we hear from you; places for new members can be booked via the school office</i>
22 nd June	Halebank 'Book Club' themed day <i>Children will be invited to read together and recommend their favourite books to others</i>
23 rd June	Infant Sports Morning and Y5/6 Sports Afternoon <i>PE kits needed all day; the children will stay in their 'bubbles' but unfortunately, we are unable to invite parents to this event</i> Year 3/4 Cricket Tournament
25 th June	Halton Haven Hospice Purple Day <i>Our Year 6 pupils are organising a fundraiser for the hospice and everyone will be invited to make something purple to wear</i>
28 th June	Maths Olympics Week <i>This week's maths lessons will be linked to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games</i>
30 th June	Y3/4 Sports Morning and Reserve Sports Afternoon <i>PE kits needed all day; the children will stay in their 'bubbles' but unfortunately, we are unable to invite parents to this event</i>
5 th and 6 th July	Transition Days <i>Children will have an opportunity to meet and work with their new classes and staff</i>
15 th July	Year 5/6 Cricket Tournament
16 th July	Annual Reports <i>Parents and carers will receive a copy of their child's annual report</i>
19 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Celebration at 1.30 pm <i>We hope to invite 2 family members per Year 6 child into school to join us for a special afternoon before our leavers move onto their new schools</i>
21 st July	Last day of the school year
1 st Sept	Staff training (INSET day)
2 nd Sept	School re-opens for the new academic year

Free School Meals Vouchers

The government has allocated additional funding to support families who are entitled to Free School Meals over the Whit break. Funding of £15 (per child) for the half term has been ordered and will be sent out to families through Wonde; the vouchers are scheduled for delivery on Friday, 28th May.

Covid-19: Half Term Contact Tracing

We have received information from the Department of Education (DfE) asking us to continue to support the contact tracing process over half term. The guidance provided is as follows:

- 'Where pupils or staff test positive for COVID-19 during half-term, having developed symptoms **more than 2 days** since being in school' there is no requirement to contact the school.
- Should children or staff test positive having developed symptoms '**within 2 days of being in school**' this should be reported to school via email at head.halebank@halton.gov.uk.
- As we break up today (Thursday), this means you should only contact school if symptoms develop on Friday or Saturday (28th and 29th May). If symptoms develop after this time, please follow the contact tracing instructions provided by [NHS Test and Trace](#).

Covid-19: Public Health Guidance

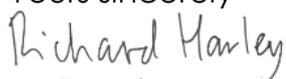
Schools in Halton have just been sent the following guidance from Eileen O'Meara, Director of Public Health and Health Protection. I have been asked to share the main points with you:

We must continue to be vigilant to prevent another wave of COVID-19 cases. I ask that you advise your staff, parents and carers that they should:

- *Follow national advice and restrictions around mixing with others and do this as safely as possible. Meeting outside is still safest.*
- *Get your vaccination when you are invited.*
- *Testing results should be reported via the NHS online reporting system. Results should also be reported to school.*
- *Self-isolate and get a PCR test (that goes to the lab) if you or anyone in your household gets symptoms. This can be arranged by booking a test online by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or calling 119.*
- *Remember that if you (or your child) have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, you will need to isolate for ten days, regardless of any test results you might get.*
- *In Halton we are advising that all identified contacts of confirmed positive cases take a PCR test (that goes to the lab). You will need to continue to isolate regardless of the result of this test. This can be arranged by booking a test online by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> and selecting 'My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms.'*

I hope that the children get a well-deserved rest during the Whit break and that they return to school with their batteries fully recharged! Have a great bank holiday weekend and enjoy the sunshine. Stay safe ☺.

Yours sincerely


Mr R Harley