

Friday, 26th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Covid-19 Update

You will be aware from the information you have received in the last week that there has been an increase in confirmed cases of Covid-19 in our school community. Having been asked to reduce mixing between our four classes by Public Health, we are now operating in 'bubbles'. This is a precautionary measure which will be in place for the next two weeks. We are continuing to run the school day as 'normally' as possible and have made some minor adjustments to break and lunchtime arrangements, collective worship and after school clubs.

We have been biding our time this half term to see how things pan out before making a decision on our plans for Christmas. Given that cases have risen in the community and that we are needing to work in our four bubbles, we think that the most sensible option for our Christmas performances is to conduct these remotely. This is not what we had planned but we feel that this is the most appropriate arrangement given our current situation.

We have been advised to remind all members of the school community about **regular and thorough handwashing**, and **home testing** (twice a week) with a lateral flow device. We have received a special delivery of LFDs and these kits will be given out to the children today. We have also been offered voluntary PCR testing kits for those classes/year group which have been affected most by the virus. Further information from Public Health will be sent out when we distribute the testing kits.

I would like to remind you that if your child develops any of the three main symptoms of the virus - *a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to the sense of smell or taste* - he/she should **isolate** and **arrange a PCR test**. If you require any support or advice in relation to symptoms or testing, please contact the school office and staff will be happy to talk to you.



The 5 Ways to Wellbeing

We continue with our weekly feature, *The 5 Ways to Wellbeing*, and today the Pupil Parliament will mention the importance of learning...



Keep Learning

Hello again! We are Poppie and George from the Pupil Parliament and this week's wellbeing theme is **keep learning**. At school and home you have to learn.... but what is learning? This could be something new like learning to speak a new language or play an instrument. We think that these things might help you to learn:

- ☺ Listening when someone is talking
- ☺ Trying your best in all of your lessons
- ☺ Putting your hand up instead of calling out
- ☺ Being kind when someone is sad and listening when they are telling you about their problems

Learning new things is really good for your wellbeing and we'd love to see some photos of you **learning** at home. Please email these to Mr Harley at head.halebank@halton.gov.uk and we will put them on our wellbeing board in the hall.

Personal Development Strengths



This week's personal development strength is **responsibility**. We have been thinking about doing things for ourselves, giving everything a go and finishing the tasks we start. Please encourage your child to be independent at home; doing things for themselves is so important, even though it can take longer! Well done to the following children who have demonstrated responsibility:

demonstrated responsibility:



Reception	Billy: for taking responsibility in organising himself
Year 1	Isabella G: for being a responsible member of the class and working independently
Year 2	Georgie: for being a responsible and helpful member of the class
Year 3	Jake: for working hard and being responsible
Year 4	Kodie-Leigh: for being a responsible and helpful member of the class
Year 5	James: for showing a responsible attitude towards his homework
Year 6	Alex G: for being a mature and responsible role model



Health and Wellbeing Week

Thank you for supporting your child at home with his/her health and wellbeing challenges. Throughout the week, the children have learnt about different ways of looking after their physical and mental health.



Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Lily-Mae	Stanley	Lyla	Poppie



Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to the children who entered the Parish Council's Christmas card competition. All entries have now been taken away by the judges and one lucky winner will have the privilege of turning on the Christmas lights in Halebank. This will take place on **Sunday, 5th December** at **5.30 pm**; please note, this is a week later than previously advertised. The winner will be notified next week. All entries were of a very high standard and the cards will be used by the Parish Council in the Christmas hampers that are sent out to local pensioners. It's lovely to know that our children's hard work will bring some festive cheer to others. Well done to everyone who took part!

Bereavement Support for Children, Young People and Adults

Halton Public Health team have been successful in their application for additional funds in order to provide bereavement support to those who live in Halton.



LISTENING EAR
someone to talk to

Bereavement support for adults who have been affected by the loss of a family member, friend or someone they cared for can be

accessed via **Listening Ear** who provide the following support: 1 to 1 counselling, CBT, a group counselling helpline and the Friendship After Bereavement group. For counselling, visit www.listening-ear.co.uk/refer/. For practical and emotional support, call 0800 048 5224, between 10am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, to speak to trained staff who will help you talk things through in confidence.



Bereavement support for children and young people up to the age of 25 who are facing bereavement, and anyone affected by the death of a child of any age can be accessed via Child Bereavement UK who provide the following: bereavement

support (via telephone, video or instant messenger), groups for families, groups for young people and groups for parents. To access support, families need to contact the following helpline on 0800 02 888 40.

Details of both services can be found on the [local Mental Health Info point](#).

I hope you all have a good weekend. For those families who are currently self-isolating or poorly, we wish you well and hope everyone recovers quickly. Look after yourselves and stay safe 😊

Yours sincerely

Richard Harley

Mr R Harley

Headteacher