



Friday 6th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### Children in Need and Remembrance

The date of this year's Children in Need appeal is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November and the theme is 'Together we can Change Lives.' Working together as a school community to support the most vulnerable members of our society seems even more vital at this time than it would do normally. However, I recognise that asking children to dress up in a particular way would create difficulties for families when they have enough challenges currently. Therefore on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November, we would like to give the children the chance to come to school in non-uniform for a donation of £1 towards Children in Need.

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, we will hold a one minute silence in each classroom at 11am with the chance for each class to discuss Remembrance in a way which is appropriate to the age of the children in that class. Before that date, I will share a virtual collective worship with all the children around this subject and the resilience shown which is so relevant to the challenges we face today.

### Pupil Voice and Parent Surveys

For many years now, our school has had a school council so that children have a voice in school and so they are able to practise leadership and organisational skills. However, we can't currently group a range of children together from different classes but it is very important to us that children have a voice in school as their opinions are so important to us. From next week I will give one or two classes, separate from each other, an issue or school development to discuss and shape with their class teacher. After the two weeks, decisions will be made by the children and this will be shared with the other classes and with parents and carers through newsletters. I will keep a full record of the decisions the children have been making on the school website.

Parents' evenings through telephone calls have started successfully this week. Thank you to families who have been involved so far in making yourself available to discuss the children's successes and what they will be working on next. Once the parents' evenings are completed, we will survey parents to discover what has worked well in these meetings and what could adapt to make even better.

### History and Science Learning

After supporting the children's return to school in the first part of the Autumn Term, we are gradually moving towards a wider curriculum offer. All classes have started their history and science topics after half-term. These are shown below for your information.

	<b>History</b>	<b>Science</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	Great Fire of London	Seasons
<b>Year 2</b>	Florence Nightingale	Animals including humans
<b>Year 3</b>	The Stone Age	Rocks
<b>Year 4</b>	The Ancient Egyptians	Living things/habitats

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Barnsley Rd, Wath upon Dearne, Rotherham. S63 6PY  
01709 760 471

Year 5	Invaders – Romans & Vikings	Properties of materials
Year 6	World War Two	How the human body works

Covid Secure Measures and Home Learning

We are currently living through uniquely challenging times but there will soon be a time when this period is in the past and not our current experience of life. We are determined in school to do as much as we can to make school safe for everyone. That is why we have reviewed our Covid secure measures at the beginning of this week and made them more robust, with changes like wearing face coverings around the school site and when staff leave their bubble classroom around school. I would like to thank parents and family members for their cooperation with wearing face coverings. Your response has been wonderful and will support keeping everyone safe around the school site. Please can this be combined with continuing to socially distance [2m+], particularly when waiting on the playgrounds or in lines. This will be further improved by not arriving any earlier than is necessary. Whilst having strong measures in place is the right thing to do, the staff will also be working hard to ensure school is still a welcoming and enjoyable place for the children to be, whilst so much of their lives have changed so significantly.

Although we have a range of robust Covid secure measures, there will be times when children have to self-isolate and when class bubbles close. The staff in school are determined that the children in these situations will have activities which mirror class learning which will be sent to families through Class Dojo. Please engage with these activities and send images of the completed learning back to class teachers through Dojo portfolios so they can provide feedback. From next week, staff from school will telephone families in periods of self-isolation or bubble closure to make sure they are able to access home learning effectively.

As a school we are here to help in whatever ways we can for the duration of the pandemic. Please contact us through any of the usual ways if you think we can help and we will do all we can to support you through the variety of means we have available.

Yours sincerely

Paul Beevor  
Headteacher