



Autumn 2 Newsletter 2020

Parent Information

- Please can all children bring a water bottle into school with water in it. We currently are not using the water fountains, so it is important that children have water to drink in school. Children should not be bringing any other drinks for the classroom.
- Please can all children have a warm, waterproof coat with a hood in school. We are going outside as much as possible and children will need to have a coat as the weather gets colder.
- Due to the current situation, we are not sharing sweets in school. We know this is disappointing for children, but please can we ask you not to send sweets in to share with the class on your child's birthday.
- Non-Pupil Days - We have 3 Non - Pupil days coming up: Friday 27th, Monday 30th November and Tuesday 1st December. Children do not need to be in school on these days.

See You Soon

Mrs Jones, who is currently working as a Learning Support Assistant in Year R is going to join another school for a secondment. We wish her good luck in her new school and look forward to welcoming her back to Richard de Clare in the future.

Parents Evening

Parents' evenings will be happening the week beginning 23rd November. These meetings will be held online. [Please click here to book an appointment.](#) The appointments will be a strict 10 minutes long. The programme we are using to run parents' evening will log parents out if the meeting goes on past 10 minutes. If you need to speak further to your child's teacher, please contact them after the appointment.

We realise that this way of working will be new to all of us. Please bear with us as we all get to grips with this new way of working.

School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school meals. They run on a 3 week rota. Wednesday is always roast dinner, and Friday is always fish and chips. The kitchen holds a 5 star hygiene rating, which they have upheld for the last 6 years.

The kitchen regularly holds themed dinners which the children love. Recently we have had a Guy Fawkes meal which included hot dogs and rainbow fruit kebabs. The children loved it!

Look out for the Christmas Dinner menu which will be coming out soon. You will need to complete an online form to book your child's meal.

Please encourage your children to try school meals.

If your child has any allergies and you have any queries about school meals, please contact the office.

Please remember that if your child is having a packed lunch or a snack at break, please ensure the food is healthy. Sweets are not allowed.

COVID-19 Symptoms

If you or your child has one or more of the following symptoms, please stay at home and arrange for a COVID-19 test as soon as possible:

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours. (If you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

New Resources

Just to let you know we have purchased many new resources this term to support the children's learning.

These include:

- New Chrome Books throughout KS2 which the children are thoroughly enjoying using. This has freed up the iPads so KS1 and EYFS now have exclusive use of these to develop their computing skills.
- New books for the school library and reading schemes which will enable children to progress even further with their reading.
- EYFS resources have been purchased for their outside area so now they can enjoy learning with sand and water outside the classroom.

Year 2 Phonics Screening Check

Children who are currently in Year 2 missed the national Phonics Screening Check that they would ordinarily have completed in the Summer Term of Year 1, as all national testing was cancelled. Children in Year 2 will therefore sit their Phonics Screening Check in late November instead. Class teachers are working hard in class to prepare the children for this.

Children in Need 2020

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 13th November in aid of Children in Need. Yellow/spotty attire is optional. We are asking for donations through just giving this year. [Please click here to donate.](#)

The kitchen are also baking spotty smartie cookies for dessert on Friday.



Class Dojos

Class Dojo continues to be successful in school. All the children love receiving dojos for the effort they are making with their learning and behaviour.

Please note that we are not using the messaging part of the class dojo system.

If you have a question for the class teacher, then please contact the school office.

We have successfully posted pictures of what is happening in the classrooms. Thank you to all the parents who have liked our posts. It is great to see parents are actively engaged with their children's learning.

We now have 233 parents connected to Class Dojo. Congratulations to Class 1A and Nursery who have 100% of their parents connected. Not far behind 5A have 97% of their parents connected and 4B have 96%. If you are still not connected, please email the office and they will speak to your child's class teacher, who will send the appropriate letter.

The next step.....soon class teachers will be sending home a code so that children can upload their work at home to their portfolios. 5A are trialling this at the moment....watch out for this next exciting step!

Thank you for all your support in embracing this new way of working together.



NFOS Support

NFOS (Notley Family of Schools) are offering some parent and child sessions to discuss and practise strategies to manage worry and anxiety.

Contact Jacky Wragg or Kerry Williams to arrange a convenient time to talk – parents can call direct.

Jacky Wragg jackywragg@gmail.com

Kerry Williams 07850770913

Key Dates

Non-Pupil days :

Friday 27th November 2020

Monday 30th November 2020

Tuesday 1st December 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Last day of term:

Friday 18th December 2020

Return to school:

Tuesday 5th January 2021