

# CRINGLEFORD CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Autumn Term 2020/2021*

## Newsletter 4



Dear Parent / Carer,

This is the first week with all the children back in school full-time as the Reception children now have had the chance to stay all day. We have been really impressed with how all the children have settled in.

### **Class information letters**

Each year group has sent out a letter providing some details about how things run in each class. A common thread is the big push to get all the children reading as much as possible. Individual reading at school is particularly difficult at the moment in most classes, but we are making sure that reading is an integral feature of each school day through reading whole class texts, guided or group reading as well as being a key part of all English lessons. Your support for reading at home is incredibly beneficial and we are encouraging all parents / carers to encourage the children to read at home on a frequent, if not daily, basis.

### **Contacting teachers**

Having conversations with teachers is also a challenge, so please make use of the class email addresses, but make sure that any urgent messages which might crop up during the course of the day are sent in via an email to the office: [office@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@cringleford.norfolk.sch.uk) or by ringing 01603 454946.

### **Wet weather / suitable clothing**

The sudden change of weather this week caught a few people out! Please make sure that your child **always** has a waterproof jacket or coat in their bag. It is essential that the children get outside for breaks and lunchtimes and will be doing so unless it is raining really hard. Mr Colbeck has asked if parents could make sure that the children have a waterproof jacket packed for PE days as outdoor PE is preferable to sessions in the hall. When the field becomes muddy, having a change of shoes and some spare clothes in the children's bags would be helpful.

Due to the current pandemic we are having to keep classrooms well ventilated so please ensure that your child comes to school with a jumper or cardigan each day.

We will inevitably get some rainy days like today and the vast majority of car users parked sensibly and allowed themselves time to park at the Willow Centre and walk up to the school or park along the road. The yellow zigzag lines should be avoided at all times and this morning there was a succession of cars dropping children off at the bottom of Almond Drive, blocking cars of residents who needed to get to work. Even on wet days, please consider carefully if a car journey is necessary and, if so, always park with consideration of others and the safety of children.

## **Microsoft Teams**

We are in the process of setting up all the children with email accounts and passwords so they can access Microsoft Teams. This will be a key way in which we will be sending out work and contacting children / families in case a class or year group had to self-isolate at any point. We will be practising how the system works by sending out some assignments or simple tasks over the next couple of weeks. School staff will be attending further training next week on Teams.

## **Birthdays**

Pupils are allowed to celebrate their birthday by wearing their own clothes either on their birthday or close to their birthday (for children with weekend or holiday birthdays).

## **Symptoms**

Attached to this newsletter is a useful letter from Public Health England providing further guidance to parents about when a person requires a coronavirus test and what the symptoms are. Also attached is another flowchart which helps determine when children should be kept off school.

## **Drop offs and pick ups**

Thank you all so much for adapting to the drop off and pick up routines. Many aspects of the process have been working as smoothly as possible considering the large number of children attending the school. To make things go even better still it would be good to share the following observations:

- Wherever possible, only one parent or carer should drop off or pick up children.
- **No dogs** should be on the school site, including being tied to the wooden fence.
- Please make sure that pre-school children are not running around or on scooters / bikes between lines and parents waiting for children.

In the **visitors' car park** area (Reception, Years 1 and 2):

- Please make sure that you come on site and stand on the lines **after** the previous line of children have gone into school and their parents / carers have left the car park.
- If you are waiting for lines to clear, this can be done on the green opposite the school.
- Please avoid waiting near the exits.

In the **staff car park area** (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6):

- Please wait anywhere behind the cones until the lines are free and try to move up as far as possible so the gate area is not congested. The area near the bike shelter usually has a lot of spare space.
- Please move away from the car park area as soon as possible after the children have been collected.
- Now that most routines have been well established, and the teachers have come out to supervise their lines, please consider leaving your child to line up independently. We understand that some children are more confident about this than others and not all will be able to do this.

## **Retirement**

Mrs Barker, the school's SENDCO and Deputy Headteacher, has decided to retire at the end of this term. She will have been at the school for 26 years and has played a huge part in the life of the school, working closely with Mrs Blake at the 'old' school in Cantley Lane, then working closely with me for the last nine years. She has worked tirelessly to support all the pupils and particularly those, and their families, who have needed additional guidance or intervention to help their learning. She will be greatly missed here at school and we are currently in the process of advertising for a part-time SENDCO to start in January.

## **Free School Meals**

Sadly, many people's work circumstances have changed due to the pandemic. If you are in receipt of Income Support, Employment Support Allowance (Income Related), Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit) or Guaranteed Pension Credit, you may be eligible for free school meals. It is important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child brings a packed lunch from home or your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and automatically receives a free school meal due to the government's scheme for all Reception / Key Stage 1 pupils. Forms are available from the website.

## **Reminders**

- When sending in packed lunches from home (including for school trips) please remember that we are a **"nut free zone"** ~ we have children with severe allergies in school.
- Please remember to send all items with your child in the morning. The office staff are unable to enter class bubbles to drop off water bottles, coats, shoes etc. Teaching Assistants are leaving the class to come and collect these items.
- Packed lunches will continue for one more week before we move onto hot dinners from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Full details of this were emailed to you earlier this week.
- Individual school photos will be taken on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. As I am sure you can understand, we are unable to accommodate sibling photos this year, each child will have one individual photo. Year 2 & 4 may wish to bring their school jumper to school for the photo as Friday is their PE day.