



Dalton St Mary's CE Primary School
Autumn term 1
Newsletter 4
24th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is beginning to feel really autumnal and it is lovely to see the change in seasons. However, it is also beginning to feel decidedly chillier! We are still keeping rooms well ventilated and I please ask that all children have a jumper/cardigan in school each day. Children also need a coat each day for breaktime and lunchtime – I know this seems obvious however coats can easily be overlooked particularly when travelling to school by car. With regard to ventilation as the weather turns colder, we will have higher windows open in classrooms and at breaktimes all doors and windows will be opened to have a 'blow through'.

Covid 19

I continue to receive detailed, weekly reports regarding incidents of Covid-19 in Cumbria. I know you will be aware that there has been an increase in cases in Barrow and we are having more conversations with families who have household members who are positive. Guidelines have changed around contacts and isolation and I have made sure I understand my responsibility in this area. I do have a team that I can call upon for support in particular cases or if we see a rise in cases in school. If there is a positive case that may have a direct impact on your child, I will inform you as soon as possible. The information will be on Showbie and you will be alerted to this by text message. Please ensure you have joined your child's Parent Showbie group (codes are at the end of this Newsletter).

- Now we are seeing positive cases, please be vigilant in looking out for symptoms of COVID-19 in your child, however mild (a high temperature of 37.8°C or above, a new continuous cough and/or change to sense of taste and smell).
- If your child develops any of these symptoms, please keep them at home and arrange for them to get a PCR test. The quickest way to get a test is by booking to attend a Local Testing Site (Barrow Town Hall).
- Please encourage your child to wash their hands regularly for at least 20 seconds and use tissues for sneezes and runny noses.
- If you are concerned that your child, or a member of their household may be more vulnerable to COVID-19 infection and are worried about them potentially being exposed to the virus, please contact me and we can discuss the protective measures we have in place in the setting, as well as jointly consider if any further action should be taken to protect your child and / or their wider household.
- I please ask that if you have any incidences of Covid in your household or you/a family member is a close contact of a positive case **please call school prior to sending in your child** to allow us to discuss the situation. I thank those families who have already had conversations and those who have been pro-active with getting tested, this really does help to keep us all safe and in school learning.

Polite Reminder about Punctuality to School

Being punctual for school means **making sure your child is at school and ready to learn before the bell rings**. There are many ways to ensure your child is on time for school, from making sure their school bags are packed the night before to making sure they get up with plenty of time to eat and get ready for school. **Lost minutes means lost learning**. Please remember we begin our day at Dalton St. Marys between 8.45am and 8.55am, if your child arrives after 8.55am then they are late. Please be aware that our Education Welfare Officer will

be in school running a Late Gate Initiative in the near future to further highlight this important fact.

Lunches

The system we use to order children's lunches has changed recently. This means that children's lunches need to be paid for and ordered **at home by 7.30am** on the morning you require the meal. All children in Reception/Year1/Year 2 are not required to pay for their lunch however they still do need to be ordered. We used to order lunches in the classroom, for those who hadn't ordered, however this is no longer the case. **From Monday 27th September if lunches are not ordered parents will be contacted, by text message, to provide a packed lunch for their child.**

Breakfast and After School Bookings

Can I please remind parents that bookings for Breakfast and After School Club through ParentPay need to be paid for within 2 hours of booking the slot. **It is easier to make sure there is money on the account prior to booking as this secures the place immediately.** If a booking is made without credit being on the account and then money is not added within 2 hours of requesting a booking the request will be cancelled. We cannot allow debt to accrue on the ParentPay accounts as the system does not allow for this.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

It is unfortunate that we had to postpone our virtual Macmillan Coffee Morning today; Friday, 24th September 2021. This will be rearranged as soon as possible. On the new date the morning will be led by Year 6 and further information will be shared prior to the event. Many charities have suffered during the pandemic in regards to funding so we are really excited to be supporting Macmillan who have helped many people in our community.

I.woodburn@dsmprimary.com

Kind regards

Mrs L Woodburn

Parent Showbie Codes

Showbie is our online platform and it is important that all parents join the correct classes to ensure good communication between school and home. Please find, below, a list of group codes which you may find useful. New parents will receive a letter with further information regarding Showbie.

Group	Code
DSM Whole School Parent Group	HZ3W5
DSM Family Tech Clinic	J3F7V
Nursery Parent Group	GQ82T
Reception Parent Group	V6AN9
Year 1 Parent Group	T23UW
Year 2 Parent Group	FJKGD
Year 3 Parent Group	U88N7
Year 4 Parent Group	H3NEE
Year 5 Parent Group	C9W59
Year 6 Parent Group	DGAEW

Dates for Diaries

Virtual Macmillan Coffee Morning	Y6 to Lead	New date to be arranged ASAP
Harvest Festival	Y5 to Lead; Shared Via Showbie	Thursday 7 th October 2021
Parent Appointment Week	Virtual Showbie meeting	Week Beg: 11/10/21
Flu Vaccinations	YR to Y6	Wednesday 20 th October 2021
Finish for Half Term	From School at 3.15pm	Friday 22 nd October 2021
Return to School		Monday 1 st November 2021
World Diabetes Day	Wear something Blue	Friday 12 th November 2021