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Mrs L Sennett - Executive Headteacher
Mr E Baird - Head of School

October Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

My goodness, what a half-term! Schools are always busy places during the autumn term, but the work around COVID has certainly made things just a little more interesting!

As we said last month, the staff have all been so proud of the way the children have settled back into school after such a long period of time away. They are happy to be here and it has been lovely to have full classrooms again and to hear laughter outside once more.

Mr Baird, Mrs Day and I have all enjoyed the chance to speak directly to more parents on a morning whilst on gate duty. This will continue after half-term, so please take the chance to talk to us if you have any questions or just want to say hello!

Can we also please thank all parents/carers for your continued support, following our guidelines to keep our school safe. I know many of you will be concerned about the move into Tier 3 from Monday. School will continue to open as normal. A letter to update parents will be sent out next week too.

Enjoy a COVID safe Halloween weekend!

Mrs Sennett (Executive Headteacher) and Mr Baird (Head of School)

Attendance

Class attendance so far this year is:

Class	Percent	Position
Reception Acorn	93.8%	
Year 1/2 Ash	96.9%	2nd
Year 1/2 Maple	94.9%	
Year 3 Beech	97.1%	1st
Year 3/4 Chestnut	94.7%	
Year 4 Willow	94.7%	
Year 5 Sycamore	95.7%	3rd
Year 6 Oak	95.3%	

Whole school attendance so far this year is:

95.3%

Dates for the Diary

Monday 2nd November - school reopens
 Monday 9th November - virtual meeting with EWO
 Wednesday 11th November - Remembrance Day
 Friday 13th November - Children in Need
 Monday 16th November - Odd Socks Day
 (to mark Anti-Bullying Week)
 Wednesday 18th November - Flu Vaccine Day
 Monday 30th November - start of Y2 Phonics Check
 Monday 30th November - Advent Worship
 Thursday 10th December - Governing Body Meeting
 Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Children in Need

Friday 13th November is Children in Need Day. We are asking all children and staff to come to school dressed in spotty clothes or something bright and colourful. Last year's homemade designs were amazing! We would ask that each child brings in a minimum donation of £1 which will be sent directly to the BBC Children in Need Appeal.





Market Stall

Please remember that we will continue to open our 'market stall' every Tuesday from 3pm onwards. This will be just outside the parents' entrance in the main playground. The produce available in the past few weeks has been fabulous; with pasta, sauces, juice, fresh fruit and veg, alongside some yummy treats!

Christmas

At the moment, none of us know what tomorrow will bring due to the COVID pandemic and the frequent changes in guidance this brings. Many children, parents and staff have asked about what this means for Christmas celebrations in schools. At the moment we don't have a firm answer, but we do want to keep the magic of Christmas alive in whatever way we can. It may involve virtual events for parents. As soon as we know more, we will let you all know.

Class of the Month - Maple (Y1/2)

This has been a hard decision this month, with several teachers nominating their classes. In the end, we chose Maple class after Mr Shires had this to say:

I'd like to nominate Maple for the overall class of the month. We've worked extra hard on our reading and writing, our stories based on "A Walk In London" in particular. Our Maths with place value, addition and subtraction has really improved and we've been amazing at taking, reading and returning our new reading books too. There have also been lots of Phonics improvements in Maple as well and we've been very welcoming with Mrs Dye on a lunchtime.



COVID Updates

HM Government

NHS

CORONAVIRUS - the symptoms

If you have any of these symptoms, self-isolate and get tested

- High temperature
- New, persistent cough
- Loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Thank you to all our parents who are adopting a very safe and sensible approach to the current situation.

If families are struggling to book a COVID test for their child or children, Wakefield Council have suggested you try Conexus. This is a local testing service on 01924 224497 (and includes assisted swabbing service for parents who are struggling to swab their child).

The national programme (despite challenges) will often have slots appearing if parents/ staff keep trying: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Designated Safeguarding Leaders

Mrs Sennett - Executive Headteacher, Mr Baird - Head of School
Mrs Saxton - Assistant Head, SENCo and EYFS, Mrs Day - Pastoral Care Leader