

# Friday 17th September 2021

# 'For with God, nothing is impossible'

Luke 1:37



# Welcome back to School and Nursery!

Welcome back to Baines'! Apologies for not sending the newsletter out sooner this term; it has been an unusually busier than usual start to the year, with both Covid cases and incidents of sickness and flu-like colds rising, causing us to have several pupils and staff absent. Fortunately, some pupils and staff are starting to return to work and we are grateful to have them back. Thank you to my team in school for their resilience and ability to pull together whenever needed and to you all, as parents and carers, for your support, patience and understanding at this time.



# Public Health England Advice Regarding A Significant Increase in Cases in One Group

As you will be aware, we are experiencing what Public Health England are classing as a high number of positive cases of Covid in our Year 6 cohort. Our Academy has been advised by Public Health England that any symptoms of illness must be treated as more serious than usual and that any child or adult who is ill, should remain at home and seek suitable treatment.

If anyone has symptoms that are associated with Covid, Public Health England have <u>strongly advised</u> that all members of the household should have a PCR test. These symptoms include:

- High temperature
- Loss of taste or smell
- Persistent cough

- Runny nose
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Sickness, including nausea

<u>Please do not underestimate the Covid virus at this time.</u> As an Academy, we have not had this number of cases before.

Our largest number at any one time since the pandemic began was nine; we now have considerably more, particularly within our Year 6 cohort. We have seen a further increase in cases since yesterday and have more PCR results pending; as a collective school community we must take immediate action. Your cooperation in following our advice is essential.

# Whilst it is not mandatory to take a PCR test, or wear a mask, I must strongly advise you all to follow the clear instruction from Public Health England, which myself and our Trust fully support.

Thank you

Mrs. Rusling

# Academy News!

#### Our Value This Half Term: Generosity

This term our value is **Generosity** and we have been talking in Worship about the many ways in our lives that we can be generous and what generosity looks like: it doesn't require giving gifts. We have talked with the children about how, by giving our time and sharing our talents, we can be generous to our family, friends and our community.

During the pandemic and now, we are all so grateful for our health and for the family and friends that we are able to see. Now, as we are able to meet with our loved ones, we have the opportunity to be generous to them. Please talk to your child about being generous at home.

#### A Good Start to the New Year

Thank you to all of our parents and carers for supporting myself and my staff with the new start to the academic year. Our new procedures for the start and end of the day seem to be working for everyone so far: thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we have settled back into a slightly different way of working.

Inside school, the children have settled very quickly this year, and we are so proud of them all. Our new Reception cohort are still finding their feet and it is not unusual to have some tears in the mornings, as they leave their adults. Once in school, they settle in quickly and very soon are smiling and chatting with their new friends. Please be assured that, if there were any issues, school would contact you immediately. We are all so pleased that we have all of the children back in school; it is a joy to see their smiling faces each day.

# **Events Coming up**

#### Harvest Appeal 2021

This year we will celebrate Harvest internally in school: Year 2 will lead our Key Stage 1 Harvest Assembly on Wednesday 6th October and Year 5 will lead the Key Stage 2 Harvest Assembly on Tuesday 6th October.

Our chosen charity for Harvest will be decided by the School Council next week and we will announce the chosen charity via Parentapp.

**Parentpay** has been set up to take donations online from any parents/carers who are able to make a contribution once the children have made their choice. More details to follow soon.

#### Primary School Applications for September 2022

If you have, or know anyone who has, a child who was born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018, you must apply for a Primary School Reception place for September 2022. Applications for Primary School must be received by 15th January 2022. Places are allocated by schools and academies by 4th March and parents are informed of their place by 16th April. If you or anyone you know needs to apply, please apply online via the applications portal, or request a paper application from the Council.

#### **Secondary School Applications**

Please check your preferred secondary school website for details of their Open Days, or telephone their school office to make an enquiry. Please be aware that **the deadline for applying for a Blackpool secondary school for September 2022, is 31st October 2021**. If you apply later than this date, you are at risk of not getting a place at your preferred school. Please DO NOT APPLY LATE.

For both primary and secondary applications please read Blackpool's Council Guide and apply for a place online at: <u>www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions</u>. For more information on applying, telephone 01253 476637.

#### Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening is scheduled for Thursday 14th October this half term. More details regarding whether it will be held face-to-face or virtually will be sent out closer to the date. This is due to the current Covid situation in Blackpool and the need to make an accurate risk assessment nearer to the date. More details to follow.

#### **Class Assemblies**

Our Class Assemblies will start this half term on Friday 8th October with 3JA. The dates for other class assemblies will be shared on the School Calendar on our website and in our October Newsletter.

#### Flu Nasal Spray

The date for the Nasal Spray for school age children will be Friday 15th October. Information will be sent out over ParentApp. If you do not want your child to have the Nasal Spray, you will need to follow the link on the message.

# School Office Noticeboard

#### Parentapp Messages

Please ensure that you read all messages that are sent out on ParentApp, to avoid the need to telephone the school office for information that has already been shared. The office staff are happy to help you with any additional queries as usual.

#### **Reporting Absences**

If your child is going to be absent due to any illness, you must either leave a message on the school answer machine, or complete the absence form on Parentapp **by 9.30am on the first day of absence**. I would like all parents/carers to understand the system that we, as a school, must follow. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to inform school/nursery as to why a child is not coming into school/nursery. Our attendance numbers are sent to the Department for Education and the Local Authority on a daily basis. The Pupil Welfare department at the Local Authority monitors our attendance. If we do not hear from parents/carers as to the reason for a child's absence, we must mark it as unauthorised and this is then followed-up by the Pupil Welfare Team. One member of the Office staff is responsible for calculating our attendance figures each day. We have over 570 pupils attending our school and Nursery. Please support us to do this job effectively, so that we can ensure we record accurate attendance figures for school and nursery.

#### **Covid Absences**

Please telephone the school office to speak to a member of our team to report any Covid-related absences.

Thank you.

#### **Operation Encompass**

Just a reminder to all families that we, as a school, participate in Operation Encompass which is a Police and Education early intervention safeguarding partnership, which ensures that a child's school is informed prior to the start of the next school day, that there has been a domestic abuse, vulnerable child or missing incident that the child has been exposed to, which might have an impact on them in school the following day.

#### **Belated Birthday Party Entertainment**

The children who were not able to have the entertainment part of their birthday party before the summer holidays have had a great time this week with Davey Dee. There was lots of laughter and ooh's and ahh's at the magic involved. We are so pleased that all of our children have now had their 2021 birthday party!

#### Your Well-being Matters to Us

Please remember that the Pastoral Team in school are always here to help and support wherever they can. Please call the school office or e mail <u>admin@cidari.co.uk</u> and ask for a member of the team to get back to you.

#### **Dates for Your Diary**

September22nd: National Fitness Day - Activities in schoolOctober4th: Bikeability Year 6 Catch Up - more details to follow6th: KS1 Harvest Assembly in school7th: KS2 Harvest Assembly in school7th: Healthy Head Programme - Year 47th: Census Day8th: 3JA Class Assembly13th: Police Visit - Reception14th: Parents' Evening15th: Nasal Flu Vaccination15th-21st: Writing Week - Focus on Science21st: School closes for half term at 3:05/3:15 p.m.



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