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## Weekly Newsletter – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

### **Thank you**

I must start my final newsletter of the half-term with some heartfelt ‘thank yous’.....

Firstly, to our wonderful pupils who adapted brilliantly to the new school routines, kept to their bubbles so well and worked so very hard. The resilience and enthusiasm that even our youngest children have shown to their learning has been a delight to see and they have certainly earned their holiday. A special well done to our Reception class who have made a fabulous start to their school life and were my Class of the Week!

I am also very grateful to you, our parents, who have been so supportive in so many ways. Thank you for being so understanding of the situation when we have been in the position of having to close a bubble; for engaging so well with new technology; for supporting the routines in place for drop off and collection and finally for being vigilant for possible symptoms in your children and family members. Ensuring that you self-isolate and get tests for any family member who has suspected symptoms has helped to keep our school family as safe as possible in these troubling times.

I must also say a huge thank you to my staff who have worked so hard to ensure that school feels as ‘normal’ as it can do for the children and to prioritise the pupils’ learning and emotional needs. I feel privileged to work with staff who are so committed to providing the very best they can for our children.

### **ClassDojo**

Thank you to everyone who has downloaded ClassDojo. We will be using this app to send messages home so please could you enable notifications, although you may want to ensure the notification is on silent in the settings to avoid that annoying beep – I know I did! We will try and only send out messages during or close to school time as we don’t want to be intrusive to family life unless there is an urgent message. Similarly, class teachers may only have the opportunity to reply during working hours. If your child is in a class which has a job share teacher, I’d be grateful if you could message the classteacher who is in school on the day you send it.

### **COVID-19**

Please continue to remain vigilant for any COVID symptoms during the holiday and self-isolate and order a test if required. If your child demonstrates symptoms this Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> and subsequently tests positive, please let me know via email: [head@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk), via messenger on our school Facebook page or by messaging me on ClassDojo. I can then notify any of the children and staff in the bubble who may also have to self-isolate. If your child develops symptoms on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> or later and there is a positive test result there is no need to inform us until they are due to come back after half-term.

### **Parents’ Consultation Meetings**

Unfortunately, in the current climate we are not able to hold our traditional November parents’ consultation meetings in school. However, we believe it is important that you do get the opportunity to speak to your child’s classteacher about your child’s progress. Therefore, we intend to hold consultation meetings via telephone during the second and third week back after half term. More details about this will be sent home at a later date.

### Trainers on PE days

After half-term, in line with Government guidance, we will continue to complete as many PE lessons outside as possible. Therefore when you send your child's PE kit back in on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, please could you include a pair of old joggers or leggings, which can be kept in school. We are also asking if your child could wear trainers (if they have them) to school on their PE day as these will be warmer than pumps outside or, if you prefer, you could send trainers in their pump bag to keep in school.

### School Dinners

I am delighted to say that Lancashire Commercial Services have appointed two members of staff to the kitchen team including a new school cook, the first permanent one that has been in place since last October. We are looking forward to working with the new team to introduce a new menu during the next half-term.

In the meantime, if your child has school dinners (even if you don't pay for them), please can I remind you to go onto ParentPay to make your child's choices for the first week back **by midnight next Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October**.

### Pumpkin Competition

Over half-term we will be running a pumpkin competition. There will be a prize for the winning design for each year group with prizes kindly donated by Morrisons once again.

To enter, either please post a photograph of your child's pumpkin on Facebook as a comment under the competition information, or email it to [hayley.pye@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:hayley.pye@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk).

### Zoom House Captains

Year 6 have been very patient waiting for Y4 to return to school so the final zoom House Captain speeches and elections could take place. Congratulations to every single member of Y6 who gave a speech via the video camera, they should be proud of themselves for taking part in this democratic process.

We announced the results in this afternoon's Child of the Week zoom assembly and it was lovely to see how supportive Y6 were of each other. Very well done to everyone who took part.

### Tempest Photographs – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October

If your child had their photographs taken on 9<sup>th</sup> October the closing date for FREE postage and delivery is at the end of this weekend.

If your child had their photograph taken yesterday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, you should have received an emailed link to view your child's photographs which you are able to order on line, however please note these do not have to be ordered this weekend – Tempest normally allow up to 14 days for the free delivery.

If you need assistance about either of the above feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

### Poppies

On behalf of the British Legion, we will be selling poppies to both Infant and Junior children after half-term. There is no maximum limit but we do ask for a minimum donation of 20p please. The British Legion have also sent other poppy themed products into school. If your child wishes to make a donation for a poppy or buy one of the other products these can be ordered through ParentPay. They will then be given to your child in school.

### Happy Holidays

Finally, once again many thanks on behalf of the staff for all your support this half-term. We hope that you and your family have a relaxing holiday despite the new restrictions.

### School re-opens on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

