



Scotforth St Paul's C of E Primary & Nursery School

"Let faith be your shield"

Newsletter No 16 Friday 8th January 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

Learning, growing and caring as part of
God's family

*"I am the vine, and you are the branches. If any remain
in me and I remain in them, they produce much
fruit." (John 15:5)*



Scotforth Superstars



Welcome to 2021!

We would normally wish everyone a 'Happy New Year!' but things are not normal.

Based on Government guidelines, we planned on school being open to everyone and for one day we managed to do this, then of course everything changed overnight due to the government announcement! When we asked parents to send in requests for a Key Worker place, we did not expect the numbers we received, they were well over three times more than in the March lockdown last year. The Governors and staff have therefore had to make some extremely difficult decisions as to which workers should be prioritised in the criteria we had set out, and trying to match that with the risk assessment regarding what is a 'safe number'. We know some families were extremely disappointed not to have had a place in school, but hope that everyone understands that the need to limit numbers is vital in order to reduce the spread of this disease. This has been emphasised by the unwelcome news of two positive cases leading to the closing the Year 2 bubble. **This has also highlighted the need for parents to ensure they have a 'Plan B' in place in case your child's bubble does close at short notice.** If your child has a place in school at the moment, you must ensure that should the worst case scenario happen and either their bubble or the whole school has to close, you would need to ensure there is someone available to look after them at very short notice. (A real challenge we know!)

On the plus side, we have been able to offer some extra part time places thanks to parents who have only sent children in on days when they are rota-d to work, or who have managed to make alternative arrangements. Thank you, we are very grateful to you. Also, we did get through a whole term without any closures so hopefully, apart from this blip, we might do so again if we keep numbers in school low and all continue to follow the covid safety rules. Thank you very much for all your support.

Winter Weather

Even though the weather has been extreme for the last week, we have kept various windows open for ventilation. As we are sure you can appreciate, it has been cold at times in classrooms and we would recommend that parents dress children in extra layers- perhaps wearing an extra t-shirt/vest, long-sleeved tops under school jumpers/cardigans, tights or leggings under trousers/skirts etc. (Although to be fair the staff seem to be feeling the cold more than some children!) Coats should be waterproof as well as warm if possible, and shoes suitable for wet weather. Many thanks.

Dinner Money

Even if your child is not in school, now is a good time to clear any outstanding dinner money. If you are not sure if you do owe any money, please contact the school office and they will be able to help. It would be preferable if arrears could be settled via the Scopay on-line system rather than parents coming into the office, but if this is not possible, cheques or cash is also acceptable. Hot dinners are still available as usual for those who are in school. Many thanks.

Hopefully normal service will be resumed this week with the newsletter being sent on Friday!

Name	Nominated by	Nominated for
James Butcher	Mrs Cross	Fabulous home learning
Louie Bloomfield-Nardone	Miss Kierzek	Being helpful and friendly to another class member
Honu Eevuri Peter Georgiev	Miss Kierzek	Their enthusiasm in trying a new sport
Sianna Noon	Miss Parlane	Great focus despite all the changes this week
Joshua Scamman	Miss Parlane	Brilliant on-line learning
Elijah Long	Mr Manning	Excellent presentation of his geography Purple Mash work

If any parents/families feel they need any financial help, Lancaster City Council have set up a Grant Scheme. Please see below for further information.

[Emergency Assistance Grant Scheme - Lancaster City Council](http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/sites/coronavirus-information/emergency-assistance-grant-scheme)
Emergency Assistance Grant Scheme. The Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant Scheme has been introduced to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essential items due to financial hardship caused by Covid-19.

www.lancaster.gov.uk

<http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/sites/coronavirus-information/emergency-assistance-grant-scheme>

Absence

If your child has a place in school but you decide for some reason not to send them on the day we expect them, such as a change in your rota, please let school know as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Zoom Lessons

We expect children to behave the same during a zoom meeting with their teacher as they would in class. If behaviour does not meet our usual standards, then your child will be removed from the meeting.

