

Springfield Primary Academy

Springwood Crescent, Grimsby, N E Lincolnshire, DN33 3HG

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Principal: Mr A Willett



Care, Collaboration, Challenge

Tuesday 6th October 2020

Dear Parent

Return to School

Starting our fifth week of school, it is great to see that our attendance remains high and the vast majority of children have settled back into the routines of school. Our teaching staff have done a number of assessments with the children in order to pinpoint where the gaps in their learning are, so that we can target these in order for the children to catch up.

Due to the pandemic, there are a number of changes to our normal day to day running. As we learn from our experiences, or we receive updated guidance, some things will inevitably change. All the decisions that we make are taken following government guidelines, the Trust's rigorous risk assessment and with the children's safety in mind.

Change of Details

If your contact details change in any way, please let us know immediately. Also, if the contact details of any of your emergency contacts change, please inform the school office. This can be done by downloading the form on the school website, or asking for a form at the school office. It is imperative that we have up to date contact details in case of emergency.

Parents Evening

Due to the continuing pandemic, we will not be able to hold a face to face parents meeting this term. We will however, be contacting you by phone to give an update on your child's progress. More details to follow.

Handwashing

As you are aware, the children are washing their hands much more frequently than normal. For a small number of children, this is making their hands quite sore. We are asking the children to rinse off the soap and to dry their hands thoroughly. Please would you speak to your child about the importance of this. If your child continues to have sore hands, please take advice from your doctor. Our trust policy states that we are not allowed to have substances in school that have not been risk assessed by a member of our own staff, other than those substances prescribed by a GP.

Birthdays

We have had a number of enquiries regarding children bringing in sweets for their class when it is their birthday. This is difficult in the current climate, however, we do feel that it would be a shame to say no. If your child would like to bring in sweets for their class, then we ask that they are packaged sweets and that we could have them 72 hours prior to giving them out. That way we can quarantine them (we promise we won't eat them!) Unfortunately, we are not able to give out birthday cake at

this time. This does seem extreme, but as North East Lincolnshire moves into red alert due to the increasing number of cases, we are doing everything possible to keep your child safe.

Home Learning

If your child has to self-isolate, we will provide work for them, through Class Dojo, our online learning platform. We are able to upload work and then your child will be able to post work on Class Dojo for their teacher to mark and give feedback. If your child is ill, then obviously there is no expectation that they work at home. It is imperative that your child is able to have access to this. We will be using it for all of our children – for sending home spellings, for example, so that they get used to using it. If you are having problems logging on, please contact your child's class teacher.

Class Dojo can also be used as a reward system. Dojo points can be given to children for their attitude to learning, the work that they have done, etc. If you sign up as a parent to your child's account, you will be able to see how well they are doing.

Christmas Concerts

A number of parents have asked about Christmas performances this year. As you know, we love Christmas at Springfield. Unfortunately, at this moment in time I do not think that Christmas concerts will be able to take place. Current guidelines state that children are not allowed to sing together in large groups and we would not be able to accommodate a socially distanced audience. We will continue to keep this under review and will let you know if plans change.

Christmas though will not be cancelled at Springfield! We will still have our Christmas lunch day, party day and other festive activities.

Breakfast and After School Club

Recently we have had a number of children dropped off at breakfast club without being booked in. This is putting a strain on our capacity. Both our breakfast and after school clubs have strict staffing ratios, dependent on the ages of the children booked in for that session. If additional children attend that we have not planned for, this may change the staffing needed. With no notice, however, we can do nothing about this. From Monday 12th October, therefore, if a child attends breakfast club without being booked in, an additional £5 will be charged.

Flu Vaccinations

Our Reception to year 6 children will receive their flu vaccination on either the 18th or 19th November. Please visit our news section of the school website to access an online consent form, so that your child will be able to have the vaccination.

Cold/Wet Weather

A number of children have arrived in school over the past few days without a coat. Please ensure that your child has a suitable coat with them during the day, as they will have playtimes outside, even when it is cold!

Yours faithfully

A. Willett