

### COVID UPDATE

As you have heard from my correspondence this week, we have had our first positive COVID test from a member of staff. It was inevitable due to the rising cases across the country. Due to the fact that we have been following our procedures, it has affected a minimal amount of children and staff. Those who have had close contact with the member of staff during their infection period (2 days prior to symptoms) have had to isolate for 14 days. They have all been informed. However, their family members do not. I will inform you of any future cases, even if it does not affect your family directly.

Those who have to isolate are provided with work on Seesaw. I have included below what we said we would offer for home learning for different circumstances. Please note that if the teacher is ill then they will not be able to provide live lessons.

#### **A child in the class has to self-isolate due to a member of the household having a positive test or are awaiting a test result**

- Teacher will provide Seesaw home learning each day and mark/comment/approve the work.
- Seesaw slides will reflect what is being taught to the class that day. Homework will continue to be uploaded also.
- Child should also have access to their 'Reading Plus' and 'Times Table Rockstar' login. This will be monitored by the teacher and reacted to when necessary during their isolation.
- If the child has not responded to any work after three days, the teacher will not continue to upload work until they have completed the work already provided. Parent/Carers will be contacted to see if we can support.

#### **The teacher and the class are self-isolating due to a positive case within the class and the teacher is well**

- Teacher will provide Seesaw home learning each day and mark/comment/approve the work.
- Seesaw slides will reflect what has been planned to be taught in the year group that day and will mirror the teaching going on in school in the other year group class. Homework will continue to be uploaded also.
- Child should also have access to their 'Reading Plus' and 'Times Table Rockstar' login. This will be monitored by the teacher and reacted to when necessary during their isolation.
- A 45 minute daily face-to-face teaching/catch up session will be delivered by the teacher to the isolating class from Monday to Friday during the isolation period. This will be through Microsoft Teams. Further information will be given and ground rules set if we find ourselves in this scenario. To access Teams in this situation, teachers will send a link to the parent/carer's email address which we have on our system.
- Parent/carers can contact the teacher through Seesaw or via the teacher's email account set up specifically for this situation. This email account will be shared when necessary.

#### **The teacher and the class are self-isolating but the teacher is ill**

- Teacher in the other year group class to provide Seesaw home learning each day. Seesaw slides will reflect what is being taught in their own class. Homework will continue to be uploaded also.
- The partner teacher does not need to mark/comment/approve this work, as the class teacher will do so when they are well.
- Child should also have access to their 'Reading Plus' and 'Times Table Rockstar' login. This will be monitored by the teacher and reacted to when necessary during their isolation.
- When the teacher is well enough to work they will take over marking and delivering of lessons remotely.

As usual I ask all parents to follow the guidance set out by the government when you are outside of school. As we are now in Tier 2 as a region, this means that there should be no mixing with other household or support bubbles in any indoor settings. Unfortunately, even if the children are in the same bubble at school or you are in the same bubble as someone else at work, the government guidance states that you should not be mixing with these people outside of work or school. There is one change where we are allowed to meet with up to 6 people outdoors whilst maintaining social distancing. By following the guidance, you are protecting everyone within the school community. Thank you for your continued support.

### OPERATION SANTA PAWS

This year we will be taking part in fundraising for 'Operation Santa Paws' - this is an event run by the Northumbria Police Team who aim to deliver dog and cat food, treats and toys to various RSPCA centres this Christmas. The Operation Santa Paws poster competition is open to all primary schools. Children can design a poster around animal cruelty prevention or promoting animal welfare. It can be as simple as how to look after your pet or what to do if you find an injured hedgehog! The entry fee is a donation of food, toys, treats etc. which we will be collecting at school (donations will be put into a box and left until they are collected by the charity). One packet or can of food is all it needs! The posters from all of the different schools will be put together and two overall winners will win an Xbox each. There are some amazing prizes to be won so get drawing. Posters can be sent to the class teacher via Seesaw or bought into school and left in a box with the donations. See the flyer at the end of this email. *Mrs Swinburn*

### UNIFORM

**A reminder that wearing school uniform is still important and part of our policy. Black school shoes should be worn unless your child has PE that day and we still operate a no earring policy.**

## PARENT/CARER MEETINGS

We have had a great response to the parent/carer meetings. Once you are clear with your log in details, then it is really easy. We are in the process of contacting those parents who have not yet responded, so that we can organise times. In next week's newsletter, I will explain how you access the video call at your time. Again this is very straightforward.

## HOT SCHOOL MEALS

Next week we are looking to include Miss Brown's class in eating hot lunches in the main hall. A survey has been sent out to the parents of Miss Brown's children to complete about their child's meal options for next week. All parents of this class are to complete the survey, even if your child usually has packed lunch. This will give us an idea about the amount of food we need to order. After half-term, we will look at extending the provision to the Reception and Reception/Year 1 classes. They are likely to be eating in the small hall but I will keep you informed when we have finalised arrangements.

## RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES THE TIME TRAVELLING CAVEMAN BY TERRY PRATCHETT

*Imagination is an amazing thing.*

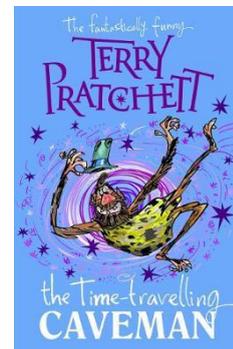
It can take you to the top of the highest mountain, or down to the bottom of the deepest depths of the sea. This is where it took Doggins on his Awfully Big Adventure: a quest full of magic and flying machines. (And the world's best joke - trust me, it's hilarious.)

It took three young inventors to the moon (where they may or may not have left a bottle of lemonade) and a caveman on a trip to the dentist.

You can join them on these adventures, and many more, in this incredible collection of stories.

*From the greatest imagination there ever was.*

Written for local newspapers when Terry Pratchett was a young lad, these never previously published stories are packed full of anarchic humour and wonderful wit. A must-have for Terry fans . . . and young readers looking for a fix of magic.



## OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Just a reminder to maintain social distance when you are on the path outside of school and please be very mindful of those around you. Everyone does so well inside the school grounds. Please make sure that you do this outside to protect everyone. Thanks.

## AUTUMN TERM DATES 2020

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October - HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 2nd November Children back in school

Week beginning Monday 2nd November Parent/carer video call meetings (by appointment) – see above.

Friday 11th December Autumn Term Reports (sent out to parents).

Monday 21st December to Monday 4th January – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 4th January 2021 TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Tuesday 5th January 2021 Children back in school

## DOJO POINTS

Check out our dojo/house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for following the Colliery Code. This week's classes with the most house points are:

1st – 2CB 2nd – 1JB 3rd – 5EP

## TWITTER STARS

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1\_UCPS or @TStarKS2\_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed.

## ATTENDANCE WINNERS

These classes have the highest attendance this week. Well done everyone!

Whole school attendance – 96.1%

EYFS/KS1 – 1Jb with 97.1% KS2 – 6SMM with 100%

Mr Gary Wright

Headteacher

# Operation **SANTA PAWS** **POSTER COMPETITION**

DESIGN A POSTER THEMED AROUND  
THE PREVENTION OF ANIMAL CRUELTY & NEGLECT.



TO ENTER PLEASE DONATE  
PET FOOD, TOYS, & BLANKETS.  
THESE THINGS WILL HELP  
OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS IN NEED  
THIS CHRISTMAS.

## **PRIZES INCLUDE**

**XBOX CONSOLES**  
**ANDROID TABLET**

KIDS CLOTHING  
CANDY HAMPER  
PERSONAL FITNESS  
(PT SESSIONS FOR ADULTS ONLY)

## **DEADLINE**

## **27TH NOVEMBER**

SPONSORED BY:

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[ACTCLEANINGSPECIALISTS.CO.UK](http://ACTCLEANINGSPECIALISTS.CO.UK)

[BREAKFREECOUNSELLING.CO.UK](http://BREAKFREECOUNSELLING.CO.UK)

FOR INFO CONTACT PETER BAKER  
07988595230

3070@NORTHUMBRIA.PNN.POLICE.UK

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE GIVEN BEFORE CHRISTMAS TO 