

WEST HESLERTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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“Children are at the centre of all we do.”

HEADTEACHER UPDATE 10.7.20

This will be the final newsletter of this school year. All newsletters are available on the school website: www.heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk We wish you all a happy summer holiday.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

We are looking forward to seeing all children and families return to us in September. School opens for all children on **Tuesday 8th September**. Measures will remain in place or be adapted to maintain separate class bubbles and a full risk assessment will be conducted using the most up to date guidance prior to our reopening. Please see the enclosed letter for details of our reopening and keep an eye on the school website through the summer for any further updates as guidance may change. Please get in touch with us admin@heslerton.n-yorks.sch.uk should you wish to update us upon any family event, let us know anything that may help us to reintroduce your child to school after such a long break or if you have any queries.

Please would all children have named wellies in school from September to enable play in bubbles on the field.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR LEARNERS

It has been announced recently that all schools will receive additional funding to help support children returning to school after the lockdown. We will have a big focus upon health and wellbeing and all classroom staff are undertaking training to support all learners based upon needs identified. Additional funding will support this training and is being used to maintain small classes and full time Teaching Assistants supporting pupils in each class.

YEAR 6

Goodbye and good wishes to our amazing year 6 children. Let us know where life leads you. Don't forget to collect your gifts from school this week.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We are planning to reopen our after school care facility from **Tuesday 8th September**. This is subject to national policy at the time but we are keen to support parents with a longer working day. To book places for this club, please phone prior to July 17th or return the booking form found online. Prices remain at £8 per session per child until 5.30pm. A slot until 4.30pm is priced at £5 per child. A snack is provided for each child attending. Usual terms and conditions apply.

SEPTEMBER STAFFING

We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Bickerton to Farthing Wood in September. Miss Milton will join the staff team, teaching music to classes each Tuesday afternoon. We welcome them both and wish them happy times here.

We say goodbye to Miss Milner at the end of her temporary contract. She has asked us to include this message:

I will be leaving at the end of this term. I will miss all Badgers and want to say thank you for being a fantastic class, working so hard this year and giving me some amazing memories. I wish each and every one of you the best of luck in the future and know you will achieve great things!



Preparing your child for returning to school

With plans being made to reopen schools for more pupils, as a parent or carer you may feel concerned about your child returning to school, especially if they find change difficult to handle.

Here are some things that you can do to help prepare your child and to gain a sense of control over the uncertainties.

- 1 Think about your child's individual needs:** each young person has their own personality, strengths and requirements so will need different preparation and support.
- 2 Find out your child's worries:** are they worried about catching the virus or family members getting sick? Once you know their concerns, you can provide them with information and reassurance to help them feel safe at school.
- 3 Share with teachers and support staff your family's lockdown experience,** as this will affect how your child will feel about returning to school. For some families, just getting through each day has been the priority, while others will have lost someone close to them. This will help school staff to provide the support your child needs.
- 4 Work together** with your child's teacher and other professionals to agree a 'return to school' plan. It will help to think about what time your child will start and finish school, who will meet them and where they'll spend breaktime. You can add more details as they become known.
- 5 Use your child's preferred communication method.** Your child could help write their own 'return to school' plan. Other children may find symbols, photos or videos more helpful. **Social stories** which use short descriptions of a situation or activity can help children understand and cope with changes.
- 6 Think about what will be the same** when your child returns to school, such as their teachers and uniform. Focusing on this first will be reassuring and help reduce their anxiety.
- 7 Find out how the school environment will be different,** such as the number of desks in classrooms. School staff may be able to provide photos or videos so your child can see what school will look like. Remember, certain changes may benefit your child, for example fewer children may reduce the risk of sensory overload.
- 8 Consider how changes to school routines and activities will affect your child:** for example, there could be new rules about entering and moving around school. Some activities that your child enjoys may not be allowed, such as swimming. Help your child to understand those changes to their school day and why they are happening.
- 9 Think about what you learned about your child during lockdown.** Did certain activities calm your child down? Did regular movement breaks improve their focus? Share this with their teacher. It could also help to continue some of the activities you started in lockdown once schools reopen.

Website links

Social stories: autism.org.uk/about/strategies/social-stories-comic-strips

rcot.co.uk

Royal College of
Occupational
Therapists



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free school meals for means tested families will be funded during the summer holidays to support communities moving on from the lockdown. Online vouchers for free school meals for these families will be issued this week in one block for the summer holidays. Please contact school prior to Thursday 16th July to confirm these have arrived. Many families have had changes in circumstances during the lockdown. Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both: younger than the compulsory age for starting school

in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling they're in on 31 March 2022. If you think you may qualify, please complete the form with this letter and return to the address on the form. School gets additional funding for all children who received meals for free. No child is identified as being on Free School Meals to others.

FURTHER CHILDCARE

NYCC are bringing together a directory for childcare which will hopefully support parents and carers for the summer holidays.

<https://northyorkshireconnect.org.uk/> has information about a variety of organisations providing support over this period.

UNIFORM

If you wish to buy uniform prior to the holidays, please come to the school office during the mornings of Monday, July 13th and Tuesday, July 14th and we will be happy to help you.

Sweatshirts £9.50, Cardigans £10.00, Sun hats £1.50

Uniform can also be purchased at the start of next term for those who wish to wait until after the summer break.

FOREST SUMMER SCHOOL

Tom Webborn, our Forest School Leader, is using his food producing smallholding in Sherburn as a venue for a 'summer school' in August, to support the wellbeing needs and nutritional health of young people in our villages. This would be similar to the gardening clubs and forest school club at school, **starting Monday 3rd August.**

Meet Bella the goat, feed plucky chicks, turn your hand to den-building, fire-lighting, woodcraft, growing fruit and veg, arts n crafts in the fresh air at Lime Tree Cottage, Sherburn. This will be a sociable, safe and fun mix of child-led activities to encourage resilient and happy children run by experienced Forest School Leaders. Each day will have a different theme: 'gratitude', 'hope', 'wellness', 'patience', 'friendship'

Tom is looking to meet the needs of our time and be of service to the community. Please do share a bit about the dates and times that would really help you, and he will endeavour to do all he can to support your child care needs.

Please contact limetreecottage13@gmail.com for details, prices and booking. Very limited places to enable distancing (government guidance 1/7/2020). See enclosed flyer.

PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS

Peripatetic music lessons with NYCC will be hosted online for the first half term for pupils who buy into instrumental sessions. This is to adhere to current guidance. It is hoped that face to face sessions will resume in November.

SUMMER FITNESS

Staying active resources are published every week. The slides and links for pupils and parents are on the area page of the School Games website - <https://www.yourschoolgames.com/sgo/lady-lumleys/>

If you require this in a different format, please contact the school office.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Summer Reading Challenge is a great way for children 4-11yrs to continue reading over the summer holidays. This year's Challenge called 'Silly Squad' is all about funny books, happiness and having a laugh!

To register sign up online at <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> Once registered children can log-in and keep track of their reading. There will be activities, games and reading suggestions available on the website. Please also keep an eye out on your local library Facebook page and the @nycclibraries Facebook page for online activities and reading recommendations.

Have a look at the library eBook and eAudiobooks—we've bought lots of great titles for you to read and enjoy. They are free to borrow at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/digital-library

Please note that due to Covid 19 there is no requirement to visit a library in order to take part in this year's Challenge and we are unable to offer the usual stickers, medals etc. This is very different to our usual offer but our priority is to help people stay safe.

SLEEP SUPPORT

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen a huge increase in sleep issues amongst children. Bedtimes have got later as have wake up times, showing a significant drift in bedtime schedules which will have a knock on effect come September. Technology usage has also increased on the run up to bedtime too and children are taking longer to fall asleep.

There are real impacts of sleep deprivation for children including effects on daytime behaviour – including hyperactivity, tearfulness and irritability – and family life.

If your family wish to have support to help issues that you are experiencing, please contact Claire Earley on claire@thesleepcharity.org.uk or call 07568 052300

EXTRA SPORTS EVENTS

School sports competitions and events will not be taking place in this area during the autumn term. No sports clubs will run after school during the autumn term, as per regulations.

SCHOOL MEALS

Cooked meals will be available for all children from Tuesday 8th September. Children in Badger Wood will be provided with a meal each day funded by school. Meals are available to purchase each day for children in Keeper Wood and Farthing Wood (Year 3 to 6). Meals cost £2.50 each day and are 2 courses. Please send money or cheque in a named envelope with your child to class each Monday. Should you wish to pay for the half term, the cost of meals is £85. Please see the school website for the menu for the autumn term.

School will operate Parent Pay from September to enable parents to pay electronically for school meals and the after school club. Please register for this using the login enclosed with this letter, if you have not already done so.

Snacks and drinks— we are awaiting guidance on the sale of snacks and delivery of fruit for EYFS and KS1. Please send all children with a fruit snack and a named water bottle until we hear more.

MALTON MUSEUM

Malton Museum will not be reopening physically this summer. Instead, a range of learning activities will be hosted virtually. Please see their website for details.

[maltonmuseum.co.uk /lucius-virtual-challenge](http://maltonmuseum.co.uk/lucius-virtual-challenge)



The poster features a cartoon illustration of a Roman soldier wearing a helmet and a dog sitting next to him. The Malton Museum logo is in the top right corner. The text on the poster reads: 'Throughout Summer Lucius' Virtual Challenge'. Below this, it says: 'Lucius our resident Roman Infantry soldier has some challenges for you to complete throughout the summer, and learn about Roman life'. At the bottom, it provides the website maltonmuseum.co.uk/lucius-virtual-challenge, email lucius.challenge@gmail.com, and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Logos for Malton Museum and Arts Council England are also present.

SEE, HEAR, RESPOND



SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

See, Hear, Respond

A new service provided across England for children, young people, parents and carers who are experiencing crisis due to Covid-19.

A new support hub and referral link is now available.

If you are worried about a child or young person experiencing harm and increased adversity or are looking for advice and help, visit www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond

Or call **0800 157 7015** to speak to one of our Barnardo's project workers.

We operate between:

Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm and
Saturday and Sunday 10am – 6pm



Goodbye year 6 you have been amazing!



Luke, Rosie, William P, Poppy, Ben, Will N, Jamie, Laura, Alfie, Skyla, Chloe, Benjamin, Tia-may, Ty, Kiara and Isaac.

If you require this in a different format, please contact the school office.