

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020



## Newsletter June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families are all safe and well.

We were absolutely delighted to welcome some of Year 2 children back to school this week. I'm not sure who had the biggest smiles, the children or the staff! After several weeks of careful planning, I am pleased to report that the arrangements that we have put in place have worked extremely well. Our wonderful Year 2 children have quickly adapted to the new rules, as have our parents who have helped immensely by adhering to the staggered start and finishing times.



Here are our Year 2 children in their bubbles.

Many thanks to our staff who have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the new arrangements work and that the children have an enjoyable and productive time in school. The Year 2 children have been creating their own superhero vegetable based on the book Supertato this week.

It is unfortunate that we have to say goodbye to our Year 2 pupils on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June but we are glad that they were able to return to the Infant School for a short time. We wish all the families moving to the Juniors our very best wishes for the future. You will be missed.



Our Keyworker children are working hard too!

Here they are practising their writing skills.

## **Opening for Foundation 2 and Year 1.**

During the week commencing 29th June we will be inviting our Foundation 2 and Year One children back to school. Currently, we are collating the number of pupils wishing to return to school from these year groups so that we can establish our new bubbles. It is important that we have this information so we can decide whether we can have both year groups in school at the same time or whether we need to offer part time provision to each year group.

We will communicate further with you next week about our plans.

## **Home-Learning**

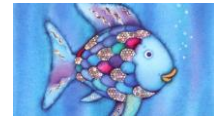
We will continue to provide children with home-learning resources until the end of the summer term (Friday 17th July). Although nothing can replace face-to-face teaching with the children we sincerely hope you have found the home-learning manageable and helpful. Please remember we can print off any packs that you require; just contact the school office.

As yet, we do not know what the plan for September will entail because we are waiting for further guidance from the government and there is a strong likelihood that we will find out when you do. If all children are not able to return to school, we will be looking to develop more online lessons and learning materials possibly in conjunction with other Wirral schools. We do know that some children will need additional support to catch up on missed learning and we are giving full consideration to how this can be put in place in the Autumn Term.

## **Communication with Parents/Carers**

We have tried to ensure that our teachers have been accessible during the Covid-19 outbreak. Many of you have communicated via email and telephone with the staff over the past few weeks. As we near the end of the term we plan to send the children's school books for this year home with the children. This will provide you with the opportunity to have a look at their achievements up to March and compare them with what the children have been doing over the past few weeks. The Year 2 children will receive their books next week and the Year One and Foundation 2 children will receive their books from w/c 6<sup>th</sup> July. If your child is not in school and you would like to collect their books please contact the school office from 29<sup>th</sup> June to arrange a convenient time for you to collect them.

Before the end of term we will also provide parents/carers with the **option** of a parent/teacher consultation. This will be based on our usual parent/teacher booking system. Please be aware that staff will not be able to answer questions about which class your child will be in or who their teacher will be for the next academic year. This will be explained later in the newsletter.



### **Things to look out for**

Our staff have set up a book character hunt around the local area. There are 20 clues for you to find. Do you think that you can find them all? Mrs McLeod will release the answers on Twitter.

Disappointingly, our annual sports day will not be taking place next week. Our Sports Coach, Callum, has agreed to set a daily sporting challenge for the children to complete each week. Check out the school website and Twitter for these.

Our school lockdown display is coming along nicely; thank you to everyone who has sent in a photograph. It is not too late to submit a photograph of your lockdown activities to us at [photos@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:photos@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk).

### **NSPCC Charity Work**

I mentioned Ivy from Mr Young's class in my last correspondence but I make no apologies for mentioning her achievements once again. Ivy has now raised a staggering £2,475 for the NSPCC by completing a cycling challenge. Mr Young and I were delighted to be asked to watch Ivy complete the last leg of her journey at her home. We were so, so proud of Ivy! She has since featured on TV and also on the front page of the Wirral Globe with the headline "Remarkable five-year old girl cycles 300km for NSPCC".

### **Children joining Foundation 1 and Foundation 2 in September**

Customarily at this time of year we would be inviting our new children to familiarisation sessions at school. Sadly due to the current situation we are unable to do this. Instead we are planning to have doorstep visits to our F1 and F2 children and we will be bringing a little surprise to help them prepare for school. Furthermore we are planning to add some information to our school website to help parents and children familiarise themselves with Black Horse Hill Infants.

Thank you to those parents who have returned their paperwork. If you haven't returned your paperwork please return it to school or hand it to the teacher when they visit.

### **Staff News**

Mrs Fitzgerald, one of our Year 2 teachers, is leaving us at the end of this term to take up a position at West Kirby Residential School. Mrs Fitzgerald has worked at the school for eleven years and has made a significant contribution to the school especially in her role as Maths Subject Leader. She will be greatly missed by both the children and staff at school but we wish her every success in her new role. Good luck Jen!



We are currently in the process of recruiting a new member of staff. Eighty-nine applications have been received for the position. Until we have appointed our new teacher I am not in a position to inform you where teachers will be working in September.

Julie Morris