



KILLINGHALL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Helping children to make the next step on their learning journey.'



OTLEY ROAD
KILLINGHALL
HARROGATE
NORTH YORKSHIRE
HG3 2DW

Headteacher: Mrs. Sarah Bassitt
admin@killinghall.n-yorks.sch.uk

☎: 01423 506307
Fax: 01423 506307
www.killinghall.n-yorks.sch.uk

Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Parents,

Further School Closure

I am sure that you are now aware that on Wednesday the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the re-opening of schools from Monday 8 March. Boris Johnson stated that if the Government achieves its target of vaccinating everyone in the four most vulnerable groups with their first dose by 15 February, then those groups will have developed immunity from the virus around three weeks later, that is by 8 March. It is for this reason that he hopes it may be safe to commence the reopening of schools from Monday 8 March – this is the earliest date possible, but it is still not a definite date.

We will remain open to our critical worker children after February half-term, as we are now. You do not need to do anything further about this – the current registers will roll over. All other pupils will continue to receive the high quality remote education that they currently have at home.

I know that having the children at home is a strain on everyone, adults and children alike, but please remember that we are in this together. If the school can support you in any way just let us know and we will do our best to help.

Keyworker Feedback

We are trying to ensure that feedback for the children in school mirrors what we would do if life was 'normal', ie verbal feedback, marking, next steps etc. Children at home get this on Teams. What we have realised is that we do not currently send KW parents a weekly update, so from now on, for children in school for 4 or 5 days, staff will email parents a short 'how the week has gone' type comment similar to the ones written in home/school books usually. Other KW children in for less days will get feedback on Teams.

Mental Health Week – Place2Be

Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 1-7 February 2021. This year's theme is 'Express Yourself.' Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.

We will hold a special 'Wellbeing Wednesday'. I would like to invite the children to express themselves on Wednesday by wearing brightly coloured clothes, their hair in a style of their choice and even face paint if they would like to. Worship sessions will be wellbeing based. Wednesday afternoon will be a wellbeing afternoon with no zoom sessions – staff will put some ideas of activities that the children can do during the afternoon on the website. The link below will take you to loads of great wellbeing activities that the whole family can do:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/>

If you are able to make adonation to Place2Be that would be brilliant:

<https://donate.place2be.org.uk/?dontype=single&sam=20-50-100&option=personal&value=Childrens-Mental-Health-Week>



Use of Zoom

Please can I remind you of the protocols regarding the use of Zoom? A couple of points in particular: Children should only use the chat function if asked to do so by teachers, and please ensure that children (and adults) are in an appropriate space and dressed suitably.

The full Zoom 'Acceptable Use Guidance' is on the Covid section of the website.

Family Support - Foodbank

Thank you for the items dropped off at school already to support our mini foodbank. If you are able to drop any non perishable items to school that would be brilliant – these can be left on the unit in the entrance foyer between 9am and 3pm each day. Thank you. We have been supported by the Rumbin Tums charity which has been really helpful in providing food parcels.

End of Half Term Sharing

We would like to invite parents to our end of half term assembly on Friday 12th February. This will follow the usual pattern as two split assemblies – EYFS and KS1 at 1.30pm, KS2 at 2.30pm. Where possible can families share one device to join, with the children being in the main image and parents in the background – this means that the internet isn't as likely to crash. We don't do certificates at the moment but will give our usual role of honour mentions.

Covid Testing in School

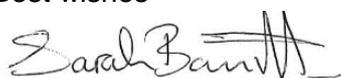
Just a quick update – staff testing has successfully begun this week.

Parent Consultation Meetings

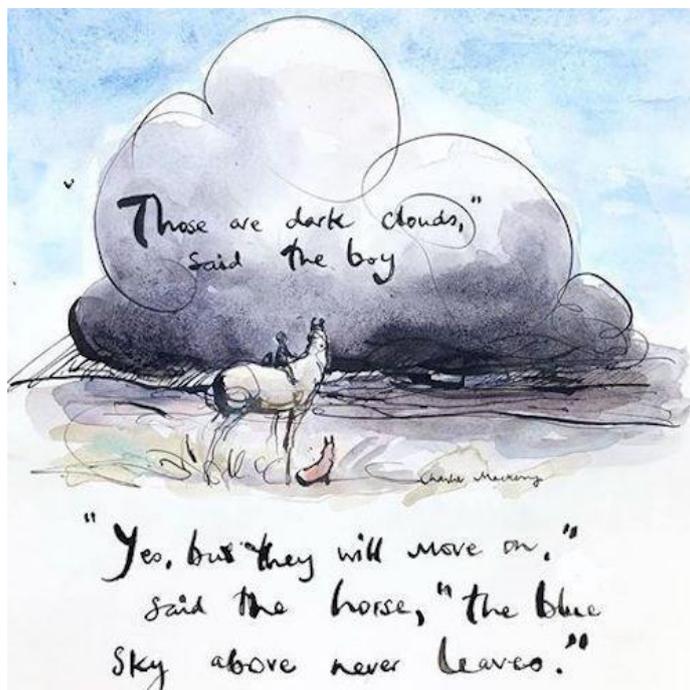
Teachers are sending out the appointment times for their meetings with parents. If you haven't received your slot please get in touch with staff via email. These are being done on Zoom – all the usual Zoom protocols apply. It is important that you are in the 'Zoom waiting room' a couple of minutes before your appointment and as a courtesy to others only take the 10 minutes allocated to you. Thank you.

Take care and stay safe.

Best wishes



Mrs Sarah Bassitt



STAY AT HOME

PROTECT THE NHS

save lives

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (where this absolutely cannot be done from home)
- Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

