

Overton St Helen's Primary

School family news



Issue 3

18.9.20



LANCASHIRE RESTRICTIONS

It was confirmed today that as from next Tuesday, tighter restrictions due to CV-19 will be put in place for the whole of Lancashire. You may have also heard on the grapevine that a couple of local schools have had to close year groups due to confirmed cases in school. I am pleased to report that at Overton there have been no confirmed cases and we have to believe that the local restrictions will keep it this way. For now, our whole school is open and the children are learning. We have plans in place should a confirmed case arise and I hope to communicate these to you next week, so you know exactly what to expect should we need to put them into action. Can I thank you again for sticking to the staggered times of the day and ensuring you keep a distance from other parents picking up or dropping off—this is extremely important if we are to keep our school open.

MACMILLAN CAKE DAY

Next Friday 25th September, would have been the day when Macmillan Cancer Care hold their 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' - something we have joined in with for the last two years. We have had successful coffee afternoons where we have raised over £200 each year for this very worthwhile and valuable charity. Of course, this won't be possible this year with a restriction on social gatherings and school guidance on limiting things brought from home to share with others. However, it has been widely advertised on Facebook and other social media platforms that COVID-19 restrictions shouldn't stop us raising money this year, so we at school have thought our way around this problem too. Next Friday, we would like to ask all the children to bring in a cake from home with a donation for Macmillan Cancer Care. At some point during the day, each class will eat their cakes together, marking the occasion and thinking about why this charity is so important. If all children bring in just £1, then we will raise at least £176 for this wonderful cause. Many thanks in advance for your support.

PACKED LUNCHES

Sticking to the subject of food, can I clarify that whilst we encourage healthy lunches in school, a chocolate biscuit, cake or similar item is completely acceptable to be included in packed lunches. Whilst we discourage full size chocolate bars, sweets or fizzy pop, a small sweet treat is exactly what's needed at lunch time!

INFANT FRUIT SCHEME

I am pleased to tell you that the infant fruit scheme is up and running again meaning we have plenty of fruit in school for all children in MAPLE, HOLLY AND ELM classes. If your child is in KS2, please send a piece of fruit into school for a break time snack.

HARVEST

Instead of joining together for our traditional Harvest Service this Autumn, we have set aside a whole week of worship at the beginning of October to think about and give thanks for our harvest. On the Friday of that week, we will be asking for donations of tins, packets of pasta and other items to be sent into school. This year we will be sending all we gather to Morecambe Bay Foodbank—another vital service in our community. Please make a note of the date in the 'dates' sections, when food donations should be sent to school. Again, many thanks.

TEAM REECE BIKE RIDE

A huge well done to our former pupils who got together to complete a 13 mile bike ride up and down the prom last Sunday, raising money for Team Reece. It was a great turn out and a great atmosphere. They have raised over £2500 so far which is tremendous. We are really proud of all of them—they are a great example of how important friendships forged at primary school are.

200 CLUB

Thank you so much to all who have bought their 200 Club number (or numbers) so far. Up to press, we have sold just over 60 numbers so there are plenty more to go before all 200 are taken. Make sure you pick up a slip and get your order in before the end of this half-term when the first draw for a prize of £25 will take place. Don't forget to tell your friends and family about it too—everyone is welcome to join in.



COVID-19 ABSENCES—WHAT TO DO WHEN?

Going home today with the children is a poster produced by the government giving parents and guardians clear instructions on what to do if your child displays symptoms of CV-19—it may just help you make the right decision. I appreciate this is somewhat of a minefield at the moment, given the fact that we are coming into cold and cough season. It is tricky to distinguish between what is normal for this time of year and what is not. As a reminder, the main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature—you feel hot to the touch on your chest or back
- A new, continuous cough—coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hrs
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

It is advised that most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

Making the right decision to keep your child away from school is tricky and although we are not experts, please ring if you are worried about what to do—we will always try to help.

We are at present finalising our Remote Education Plan in the event of prolonged absences and hope to communicate this to you shortly.

MAPLE CLASS

It was lovely to see a full MAPLE class in school for the first time today. Our newest members of school have settled in brilliantly to school life and they are now all in together, full-time. Today they have been really busy with their first PE lessons, playing out in the sunshine and working all together. Mrs Marsland and Miss Bailey will sleep well tonight!

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Here are some important dates to be aware of:

Fri 25th Sep: Macmillan Cake Fundraiser—children to bring a cake to school and a donation to MacMillan Cancer Care

Tues 29th Sep: OSFA AGM 7pm

Fri 9th Oct: Harvest donations to school

Fri 16th Oct: OAK CLASS ASSEMBLY via Facebook

Fri 23rd Oct: School ends for half-term break

Mon 2nd Nov: INSET DAY (school closed)

Tues 3rd Nov: School re-opens after the break

Fri 27th Nov: BEECH CLASS ASSEMBLY via Facebook



STARS OF THE WEEK

And finally, a very well done to Emily in Holly Class, Syd and Michael in Elm Class, Alice-Ann in Willow Class, Chloe and Ellen in Beech Class and Josh and Eve in Oak Class who are our 'Stars of the Week' this week for making a great effort in their reading, showing confidence, enthusiasm and working really hard to improve.

Have a good weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

