

# Overton St Helen's Primary

## School family news



Issue 8

6.11.20

### WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to the start of our second half-term this Autumn. I am pleased to report that the children have returned to school with a great attitude, ready for another half-term of hard work. We have already got our sleeves rolled up and are getting stuck in to new topics and texts. With the second lockdown now started it is extremely comforting to know that unlike last time, schools remain open and a degree of normality can be maintained for our youngsters. In fact, when we are immersed in a busy school day, it's hard to even remember that anything has changed.

However it is obvious that COVID-19 restrictions on schools will affect a great many activities we usually enjoy this half-term, especially in the build up to Christmas. We cannot simply throw open our doors and invite you in to join us for parents evenings, the Christmas Fair or festive performances. Nevertheless, we are already putting our heads together to find alternative ways of making sure this half-term is still filled with joy and excitement and we will let you know the plans as we finalise them. In the meantime, can I thank you again for sticking to drop off and pick-up times and continuing to notch up your step count by following our one-way system around the building. It makes for a calm and 'socially distanced' start to the day.

### CHARITABLE CAUSES

I never fail to be in awe of the generosity displayed when we have any type of fundraising activity in school. Last half-term as a school family, we gave generously to Macmillan Cancer Care, donated a vast amount of food at Harvest time to Morecambe Bay Foodbank, and on our final day, broke all multi-day records and raised £144 for our school council.

THANK YOU!



Next week is Children in Need and if you remember, last year we had a Big Breakfast with many of you dropping in for a bacon butty before the start of the school day. Sadly, this year will not be on such a grand scale, but we would like to mark the occasion as it is such an important charity for children. So, each class is aiming to make a silver Pudsey face from any 20ps, 10ps or 5ps you may have spare. Next Friday 13th Nov, please send in any silver change you may have. There will be no non-uniform or dress up day but if your child has a pair of Pudsey ears they want to wear, they are welcome to bring them to school.

In another three weeks, the season of Advent will be upon us. Last year as a school family we gave generously to Morecambe Bay Foodbank, following their 'Reverse Advent Calendar' idea. I am sure you will agree that the Foodbank will be needed now more than ever as pressures from the pandemic hit many families in our area. I would like to challenge us all to collect as much as we can collectively for the foodbank throughout the month of December. More details on how to do this will follow over the next few week. Again—THANK YOU in advance for you compassion and generosity.



### COVID UPDATES

The second lock down has begun outside school, but I am pleased to say that things have not changed inside school. We still follow our systems of control, with additional cleaning, lots of handwashing and keeping the classes separate from each other wherever possible. I am pleased to inform you that we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in school and all classes are open for business. It is a huge relief that this time, schools have not been closed and our children can continue to work and play at school with their friends, where they belong.

### PARENTS 'EVENINGS'

Thank you for responding to our parents evening letter which was sent home this week. This year we are asking you to let us know at what time you will be available for us to call you on the telephone and speak to you about your child. Please continue to send your preferred times back to us as soon as possible for us to accommodate everyone where possible. Our teaching assistants are very busy co-ordinating call times which will be sent back to you next Friday.

### CROSSING THE ROAD

I am proud of how sensible our children are being when crossing the road in the morning as they arrive at school. However, we are going to be reminding the children in school about sensible road crossing and the importance of looking both ways and waiting until the road is clear. Please could you reiterate this message at home to make sure our children stay safe. Thank you.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Here are some important dates to be aware of:



**Fri 13th Nov:** Children in Need

**Tues 17th & Wed 18th Nov:** Telephone parents meetings

**Thurs 19th Nov:** Flu Immunisations in school (pm)

**Fri 27th Nov:** BEECH CLASS ASSEMBLY via Facebook

**Sun 29th Nov:** Advent begins

More dates will be added shortly.

### STARS OF THE WEEK

And finally, a very well done to Lucy in Maple Class, Dylan in Holly Class, Scarlett and Joseph in Elm Class, Joshua D in Willow Class, Dylan in Beech Class and Samuel and Bailey in Oak Class who are our 'Stars of the Week' this week for some great story telling illustrations and working hard on their handwriting.

Have a good weekend everyone.

