

Friday Flyer

Friday 13th November 2020

Head Teacher Update

We are now really feeling at home on our new school site and we hope that you are too! Every day we are finding our new school routines a little easier and we hope to become slicker each week. We could not be prouder of how well the children have adapted to their new surroundings.

Thank you to all of our parents and grandparents who have followed our advice to wear a mask on site. This is helping us to keep everyone safe.

Please also adhere to government advice and get yourselves and/or your children tested if they develop a raised temperature, persistent cough or lack of taste or smell.

As you are all good at keeping us informed, I would like to ask that if you or a member of your family have a positive Covid test to please notify the school straight away. This ensures that we can act swiftly to close bubbles if need be.

On the Covid note, can I please ask everyone to be sensitive and respectful on WhatsApp groups about any potential positive cases in a household. The majority of our parents are very mindful of people's personal and private information but we have heard about a couple of incidents where there has not been the appropriate respect shown, and as a community that is not how we work.

As the new lockdown continues please do contact the office if there is anything that we can support you with. Of course the hope is that we will have a finite period this time but it is crucial that we continue to look after ourselves and each other so don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can support you with.

We have received a letter thanking our school community for our generous donations to The People's Kitchen from our Harvest festival. Ponteland Primary always has such a fantastic response to Harvest but this year we have blown it out of the park. A testament to how amazing you all are that however hard things are for us, they may be harder for someone else. Thank you so much for helping The People's Kitchen to feed homeless people over the winter period.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend,



Thank you for supporting our Children In Need fundraising this year by supporting our wear your favourite colour day. We have tried to keep the theme as easy as possible for parents as we recognise that during lockdown it is hard to access outfits on a theme.

This year's fundraising is more poignant for us as sadly Louisa lost her mum Lyndsey to secondary cancer in April.



Louisa and her dad Matt are going to be featured on tonight's Children In Need programme between 9 and 10 pm on BBC1. They have been supported by Maggie's (cancer support service) and this support has been funded through Children In Need. It would be great if we could raise as much as possible to show our support for Matt and Louisa. We will accept donations until Tuesday next week.

Children In Need/ Strictly Come Dancing Challenge

Look out to see if our video has been included on the CIN strictly challenge. **Thank you to Mr Drane for getting us dance floor ready!**

Please view our efforts on twitter

@primarypont



Staying Safe On Line

In other news many of you have talked to me about your concerns about your children's use of social media. Concern has grown during lockdown as children have spent more time on line. I recently watched a great panorama episode about the use of TikTok I found it to be very informative and have attached a link for you. We have a lot of children using TikTok and it is important that we are all aware of how it should be used. There might be parts of the programme that you might like to share with your children at home to help them understand more about online safety:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000p3p9/panorama-istiktok-safe>.

Odd Socks Day – Monday 16th November



To mark the start of Anti-bullying week we ask the children to wear odd socks on Monday 16th November. No cash donation is required.

Year 1 Eye Tests

Our Year 1 children will be having their eyes tested on 19th November. Parents should contact the school office if they do not want their child to be tested.

Christmas Plans

Due to current restrictions we are unable to have our usual Christmas performances for parents. Reception, Years 1 and 2 will each be doing a Christmas nativity and sharing it with parents. Key Stage 2 classes will each be performing a traditional Christmas carol and will be sharing a recording with parents. If for any reason you do not wish your children to be involved in Christmas performances please contact your child's class teacher by 20 November.

Upcoming Dates In Autumn Term

Friday 13 November	Children In Need – wear your favourite colour
Monday 16 November	Odd sock day for Anti Bullying Week
Thursday 19 November	Y1 eye test
Wednesday 9 December	Christmas lunch
Week beginning 14 December	Christmas party week – in year group bubbles
Friday 18 December	End of term – school closes at 1.30pm

L Blain
Head Teacher