



Willoughby Primary School
Church Lane
Willoughby on the Wolds
Loughborough
Leics.LE12 6SS

Tel: 01509 880620 Fax: 01509 881834

Email: head@willoughby.notts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Miss Beatrice Smith

'Learning For Life'

1st October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the second newsletter of the school year. We have had a very settled, productive and busy few weeks.

This issue contains:

- COVID 19 update
- Staffing News
- Willoughby Award winners
- School Council Members
- Parents Evening
- Past pupil success
- FOWs
- Isla Knight Charity event
- PE update
- Finally ...

COVID 19 update

With the rise of cases nationally, COVID 19 is continuing to affect every moment in school and we all need to remain vigilant and do our part to stay as safe as possible.

The member of staff who recently had a positive test carefully followed all the guidance: avoiding school when feeling unwell, taking a test as soon as possible and self-isolating for the required 14 days and in doing so responsibly prevented an outbreak in school. Thankfully, they are now on the mend, although their extremely unpleasant experience of the virus is a reminder that this is not something to be taken lightly.

We are now conducting a daily temperature check on each child and member of staff to try and alert us to any high temperatures. I appreciate it is incredibly difficult with small children to judge whether you child just has a cold or something more serious. The guidance sent out earlier this week via email should help. I have also included a letter at the end of this newsletter sent to schools this week to share with parents and guardians from Public Health England which outlines when you should get a test for your child. Please can I ask that you all continue to maintain social distancing at the school gate at drop off and pick up times.

In school, we are managing to maintain teaching in bubbles, keeping children and staff to specific groups. I am extremely grateful to the staff who have been helping out serving dinners at lunchtime in classrooms and clearing away as well. Should we have to quarantine any of the bubbles, the staff have been busy preparing contingency work for quarantine. This has all now been completed and we have received some training around using Microsoft Teams.

I will continue to keep you all informed of any developments and information.

Staffing News

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to inform you that Mrs Marshall has decided to retire at the end of the Autumn Term.

For over 20 years Mrs Marshall has been the beating heart of Class 1 and a dedicated, loyal and hardworking member of the Willoughby staff team. Nobody has cared more than her for each

individual child- always taking the time to listen, encourage, and share. She has made a real difference in the lives of all the pupils she has taught, sharing so many valuable life lessons. Who can ever forget a Mrs Marshall story!

As thoughtful as ever, Mrs Marshall has made her decision early in the term in order for us to be able to plan her successor and make the transition as smooth as possible.

Willoughby Award Winners

The Willoughby Award has proved very popular on its return and the recipients have been very worthy winners. We have been sharing the winners across the bubbles by having a Teams assembly on a Friday so each class can see each other on the whiteboard. A photograph of the monthly winners is also on display in school.

Congratulations to recent winners of the Award:

11/9/20 Cleo (Y6) 18/9/19 Isla (Y4) 25/9/20 Octavia (Y3)

School Council Members

In the second week of term each class was asked to vote for their School Council representatives. The members are elected by their peers in their year group. The School Council meets 3 times a term and discusses and organises events and issues brought forward by the representatives. In the first meeting everyone was given their badges and we had an initial discussion. The group decided to support Children in Need and The Little Princess Trust as well as organising some events in school across the bubbles.

All the minutes of the meeting and information are displayed on the School Council board in the KS2 classroom (including a photograph of all the current members).

2020-21 School Council Members

Year 5/6- Cleo & Oliver Year 3/4- Edward & Rosie Year 1/2- Ben & Evelyn

Parents Evening

You should have received a letter about our parents evening which is during the weeks beginning 5th and 12th October. We will soon be sending you home a time for your telephone appointment, which we need to keep to 10 minutes. If you feel you may need longer, or if you wish to speak to me, as well as the Class Teacher, please phone the office so we can arrange another time that is convenient.

Past Pupil Success

We are always happy to hear about ex-Willoughby pupils and what they get up to after leaving us. I am thrilled to tell you that William Griffin graduated with a first class honours degree in Computer Forensics and Security from Leeds Beckett. Ellie Griffin has just set off to study Physics at the University of Leeds. Billy Easter has gone to the University of Lincoln to study Product Design, Natasha Malik has gone on to study Fashion Buying and Merchandising at Manchester Metropolitan University and Eve McKellar is at Loughborough.

Will Lambton is studying Aerospace Engineering at Nottingham University and is currently on a work placement year at Rolls Royce in Derby.

What a talented lot!!

FOWs

Although current restrictions have meant a few of the traditional events will have to be postponed this term, FOWs have got a few ideas in the pipeline. If you have any suggestions for events in or around school please feel free to get in touch.

Isla Knight Charity Event

Isla Knight in Year 4 has been growing her beautiful hair for a very special event. Isla is going to have her hair cut to donate to The Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. Established in 2006, they have supplied over 8000 wigs to children and young people and have invested in the region of £5 million into ground-breaking childhood cancer research.

School Council have agreed with Isla that they will help her run a special fund raising day on the day of Children in Need (Friday November 13th) to involve a raffle, cakes and a book sale.

Any money raised on that day will go towards Isla's total fundraising. Isla has also agreed to have her hair cut in school for us all to see! More details on this will follow.

PE update

Thanks to some recent good weather the children have all been participating well in PE activities. Football sessions with Sam have proved popular on Fridays as well as his club on a Thursday after school.

As we will be in the village hall after half-term, can I please remind everyone to bring some 'clean' trainers/plimsolls to change into and make sure children wear PE kit on the right day.

Class 1- Friday Class 2 - Tuesday & Friday (Thursday for those attending Sam Clements's Coaching)

Upcoming Visit

Unfortunately the pantomime has been cancelled this year but we will soon have some news about an alternative Christmas visit for the children.

Finally...

- Barry Baker from Keyworth Cricket Club has been in touch with this message:

We appreciate that this is a difficult time as you settle children back into school and of course none of us can predict what might happen in the future in these unprecedented times but I just wanted to re-assure you that we are ready and willing to offer a programme of cricket coaching in your school next year if circumstances allow and we are already in conversations with Nottinghamshire Cricket authorities on this matter.

It is a difficult time for us as a club with dwindling finances from a drastically shortened and limited playing season but our members are resolved in their commitment to provide a service to the community through coaching young children and children with disabilities.

We are monitoring the advice from Government and the National Cricket authorities and are hopeful of maintaining the club programme of Winter Indoor Training sessions for our Junior players and if any of your pupils wish to join us they would be very welcome and if you are planning a communication with parents please ask them to contact me by email bgbaker@btopenworld.com to register the interest for their child.

- Jake from Rockley music is offering taster drumming sessions in school. If you need more information on this please contact the office.

Thanks for your continued support for all that we do together to ensure all the children have a safe and happy environment in which to learn.

Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher

Date: 23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, students, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with COVID-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

You should only book a test if your child has any of these 3 coronavirus symptoms:

1. a high temperature: any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. a new continuous cough: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste: a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus
 - If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly
 - Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the 3 symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result
 - If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms
 - If a pupil or student in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school or college. Schools and colleges have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful.

It is vital for children and young people's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Viv Bennett CBE (Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years, Public Health England)

Dr Susan Hopkins (Interim Chief Medical Officer, NHS Test & Trace)