

# Friday Update: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020



## Flu Vaccination- 12<sup>th</sup> October

Flu vaccinations will take place this Monday within each of the classrooms. We will be in touch if there are any problems on the day.

## Learning Consultations

Thank you to everyone who took part in a new-look approach to Learning Consultations this week. Feedback from teachers has been very positive but they did agree that the 8 minutes went very quickly. Next term we will be planning to increase the time to 10 minutes.

Apologies to families who had technical problems. We are happy to offer an alternative phone call or rearranged meeting to ensure that you have had the chance to discuss your children's learning.

## Primary 1 Photo

A reminder that the primary 1 photograph is available in this week's Courier.



## Sandpit

We are starting to further develop our playground. We are now focusing on the lower playground beside the school entrance. Our plan is to develop this area into a space for quieter play and to allow our younger children to access different play that they can't in their classroom.

We would like to say a big thank you to Peter Dickie for building a sandpit for us and to Drem Timber for providing the wood for this. Yesterday we had our primary 3 playing in it for the first time and it was brilliant to see.

We would welcome any donations of equipment to be used in the sandpit. Both the school and the nursery have a shortage of sandcastle buckets so these would be particularly well received.



### Loose parts play

Our children are already making full use of the loose parts that have been kindly donated. Over the holidays we are getting the finishing touches completed on the green shed to allow our resources to be better managed. We then have play training booked in for our staff on the Monday In-service. This will hopefully allow us to maximise the play in our playground.



### Spare clothing

In both our nursery and primary 1/2 class we currently have a shortage of spare clothes, especially ones that our boys are happy to change into. If your child has grown out of any of their clothes we would welcome any donations to help us when play gets too messy or accidents happen.

## Staffing

We are delighted that we have Helen Gray joining us in the nursery on a Thursday morning. Helen is an early years practitioner who normally works for the “tots and teens” service which due to covid-19 restrictions is currently not running. Miss Gray had a great time in our nursery yesterday and we look forward to see her again next Thursday.

## Pumpkin Parade

We will soon be sharing our very exciting plans for a “pumpkin parade” to celebrate Halloween this year. We know how much our village normally invest in Halloween and want to make sure that still happens within our “new normal”.

At the same time, we are very aware that some of our families may have found the last 7 months very challenging in terms of changes to their work and life arrangements. As a school we see it as being important that what we do doesn't cause too much of a financial burden on our families. With this in mind, there is no expectation that families rush out to buy multiple, expensive costumes.

We are keen to offer a “costume exchange” to reduce costs and waste. If you have any old Halloween costumes at home that no longer fit or are used please send them to school with your child. We are also offering the chance to become “A Mummy” in class on the day instead if they want to do this with their classmates. We also appreciate creativity from things found around the house. There is also the option not to dress up if your child doesn't want to.

If you have any questions about this, please get in touch but more information will follow.

Kind Regards,

Stewart Brown

Headteacher