



Withernsea Primary School



May 2021 Newsletter

(‘Welcoming, Positive, Successful’)



Captain Tom 100 Friday 30th April

On 30th April, which was Captain Tom’s birthday and one year on from him completing his 100 laps for charity, his family were asking for everyone in the UK to do something extraordinary/different for a cause they love in his memory.

At school, each class chose something to do (a 100 of something) to remember him and we asked each family for a donation of 100 pennies (£1) to set up Captain Tom playtime boxes. Each class will choose items to go in their playtime box from the money that we raised.

Thank you for your support with this – we had a Captain Tom assembly last week and the children will work together to decide what to order for their boxes. They will be called Captain Tom playtime boxes which will commemorate his life and beliefs.

New Build

All is very much on track ready for our anticipated move. Some parents have expressed concern over the length of the half term holiday. It was always in the HCAT school calendar to have 8 school days as a half term holiday. We have saved 2 training days and have taken 3 additional days to cover the move into the building. I agree it’s not ideal in that the year has already been disrupted, but the building schedule was already arranged.

The good news is, by finishing ahead of schedule, we can move in this academic year and not disrupt the next academic year, as the original schedule had us moving in September. We can settle in and when we start academic year 21-22 hopefully we are back to operating as normal and can have a ‘normal’ year which we all very much want.

Hull Road is also going to get trickier as we will lose the south building car park whilst they demolish the south building. For several weeks there will be no parking anywhere on site. Once the building is demolished they will reinstate a small field and a new car park to replace what we already had.

Cashless Payment System from 14 June 2021

When we return after the May half term we will be using a **cashless payment system**. We have been introducing our online payment portal, SIMS Pay over the last year or so and many parents/carers have opted to use this to pay for school meals, clubs and uniform. You will also be able to pay for trips when these begin again. Moving forward, this is a convenient, safe and secure solution for payments to be made to school. The SIMS Pay portal has proved an efficient way for parent/carers to pay money to school and if you are not already on the system please contact the school office to request your SIMS Pay login details and we will send these home with your child.



SATS

There won't be SATS tests this year, so teachers will use teacher assessments. We will continue to assess phonics and also Year 4 will be taking part in the multiplication tests which will be in June.

Reading

We want all children to read fluently and well by the time they leave our school. Reading is key to learning in all subjects – the children need to read well to access all aspects of the curriculum in Secondary school. As with all things, the more we practice the better we get.

We have a big focus on reading during the school terms, but we need your help as well; please can children practise at home for 10 – 15 minutes a night which makes a real difference by the time we reach the end of a school year. Also, please remember to bring books back - thank you.

Catch Up

To support some children who have gaps in their learning we are starting to run some very small intervention groups which do go across class bubbles. We are keeping records for any track and trace purposes. It is essential as part of the road map out of Covid we start to catch children up and prioritise their learning. At present classes do remain in their own bubbles for everything else. When the infection rate reduces further we will start to ease on some other aspects in school (especially phonics groups) and adjust our risk assessments accordingly. It is going down gradually – last week in the East Riding and Hull it was 35 per 100,000 people. It is moving in the right direction and we greatly hope it continues to decrease so we can start to do more in school – we will keep you updated.

Anti-Bullying and Cyberbullying

We want all our pupils to know how to use the internet safely and happily – however, they need our support to ensure that happens as sadly there are many people out there who abuse the internet and intend harm in some way.

Excellent websites for parents include:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.internetmatters.org

www.saferinternet.org.uk

www.childnet.com

Head lice Reminder



Back to school usually means head lice return as well. If all parents are vigilant and adopt the **'Once a week - take a peek'** and treat as necessary, it helps keep this problem down to a minimum. However, in order to be effective, **everyone** needs to do this. Please ensure one night each week you have a look and check your child's hair so we avoid getting lots of head lice problems – thank you.

The School Drive

Pupils are welcome to scooter or cycle to school but please remember to walk these up and down the school drive - it is very busy with lots of little ones. Bikes and scooters at speed would be too dangerous. We also have narrower paths due to the building work at present; please continue to follow the one way systems which are in place. Please do not

arrange to meet at the bottom of the drive and on the pavement – by crowding it makes it difficult to socially distance. Direct contacts are within 2 metres for 15 minutes or within 1 metre for 1 minute – please give each other space.

Sunscreen, Sun hats!

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us for May, June and July; if so please make sure children have sun hats and also put on sun cream before they come to school in the morning, they can also bring a small bottle to re-apply themselves at lunchtime, if you feel that is necessary.



National Walk to School Week

It will be National Walk to School Week commencing 17th May – please try to walk to school as much as possible.

This year's theme is: **WALKING SUPERPOWERS!**

If you do need to drive to school please try to park away from school and walk a short distance - this helps keep Hull Road safer for all the children walking. Under no circumstances park on the zigzag lines as this makes it very dangerous for everyone at home time or before school – thank you for your help with this.

PCSO's work with school and our junior road safety officers. They bring speed cameras sometimes along Hull Road (which is 20 mph outside school!) as well as looking at appropriate parking.



For more information visit: <https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/products-and-services/projects/walk-to-school-week>

Term Dates for School year – 2020-2021

	Summer 2021
Open	Mon 12th April
Close half term	Tues 25th May
Open	Mon 14th June
End of term	Fri 23rd July

Term Dates for School year – 2021-2022

	Autumn 2021	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Open	Wed 8th September	Wed 5th January	Tues 26th April
Close half term	Thu 21st October	Thu 17th February	Thu 26th May
Open	Mon 1st November	Tue 1st March	Wed 8th June
End of term	Tues 21st December	Fri 8th April	Fri 22nd July

**Please note we are also closed for May Day on Monday 2nd May 2022.*