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Withernsea Primary School



Welcoming, Positive, Successful'

September 2021 Newsletter

Welcome back!

We hope 2021- 22 will be a more normal year, as we are firmly focused on teaching, learning and pupils making lots of progress and enjoying lots of learning in school.

The guidelines for Covid have been updated. Pupils no longer have to self-isolate if they are direct contacts, but will need to take a PCR test to confirm they do not have Covid, they can come to school whilst waiting for PCR test results. If pupils do feel unwell, we will ask you to collect children and still get tests and we appreciate your help with this. There are no 'bubbles' and adults are not required to wear masks on site. However we continue to wash hands, promote 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and will have windows open in classrooms to ensure good ventilation.

If we did get an outbreak, we would have to bring back measures to protect everyone and Public Health will continue to advise us. If a pupil tests positive, we will let you know if your child may be a direct contact, so that you are aware and can check regarding any symptoms but unless they are unwell, or test positive, they can continue to come to school.

We will all keep communicating and will continue as we have been doing to support each other as a community and get through these ongoing difficult times.

If you have any questions please do ask – we are more than happy to help.

School Photographs

The School Photographer will be in school tomorrow, 14 September. This will be for individual pupil photographs.



School Attendance

School attendance is extremely important. We work hard in school to promote good attendance and therefore reward good and excellent attendance.

If you have any queries or problems regarding attendance do come and talk to Mrs Allen we can work together. If a child is clearly unwell and needs to stay off school, just let us know - if they have a minor complaint and you are uncertain please bring them to school – we can always contact you if they become worse but it is best to try and come wherever possible!

We no longer have the statutory powers to authorise holidays – exceptional circumstances forms are available from the school office in the South building.



Illness (including Covid)

If your child is absent from school due to a minor illness you must contact the school to inform them of the reason for absence and how long you expect the child to be off school. All parents/carers could you also state the nature of the illness to prevent it being spread to others in school. Medical evidence will be requested to support your child's absence. This may include an appointment card/letter/prescription/medication etc.

In regards to both vomiting and diarrhoea, the advice states that a child must be absent from school for a clear **48 hours**. Thank you.

Please do not bring children to school with Covid symptoms (high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste/smell) - instead please get a Covid test and then inform school of the result. If children develop Covid symptoms in school – we will need to isolate them and wear full PPE – please ensure we have your most up to date contact details and we can contact you as this may be distressing for both children and staff if there are delays in not being able to contact parents.

Our New Build /demolition

Henry Boot have worked extremely hard over the holidays. The old building has now gone and most of it has gone to salvage so that bricks and wood can be re-used. The old car park is being resurfaced and the old car parking places from the north building incorporated a new parking places. Unfortunately we are not allowed any more car parking than we originally had and the car park will have to be restricted to staff parking only.

We will get a new field to replace the field that they built on. Once it is all completed we will look at entry and exits to site and change some of the routes to the doors. In the meantime please stick to the one way systems as it helps everyone keep moving and minimises congestion especially at the end of the day. It is anticipated that by October all work will be finished, which is several weeks ahead of schedule.

Behaviour/Attitudes to learning



Please sign up to DOJO – it gives lots of photos and information about what your child learns in class. If you haven't already, get signed up - passwords are available from class teachers.

We will continue to award children Dojo points. Parents will be able to see when their child achieves Dojo points via the Dojo app. Classes will agree awards for reaching certain milestone points with their new teachers.

Senior managers will also reward children with stickers for good attitudes and positive hardworking approaches to their work. We will continue to reward the children with certificates in celebration assemblies every Thursday and Friday.

If pupils make poor choices they will be given negative Dojo points which parents will be aware of; if it becomes a continued problem we will ensure parents are informed and we will work with you to ensure your child is able to start to make more positive choices over their behaviour.

Head Lice Reminder



REMEMBER
ONCE A WEEK,
TAKE A PEEK

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 keeps 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.

Breakfast Club

This will continue 7.45am - 8.45am every morning. Breakfast club is chargeable at £2.50 per day and registration forms will need to be completed and signed for. If you would like to use the club, sessions do need to be booked in advance - please contact the North Office to arrange to book sessions and make payment via our online payment system (SIMS Pay).



School Clubs

Judo will continue on Fridays, starting 17 September, and we are looking to get other clubs restarted and will post information about this shortly.

Universal / Free School Meals

Menus have been sent out at the start of term.

If you are eligible for Free School Meals or your family circumstances change and you become eligible, please make sure that you claim as your child would have the option of taking a free meal. Pupil Premium paid into schools is based on the number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals. This will directly affect the money paid into school to spend on staffing and resources. In these stringent economic times every penny counts and it is important we have the money which school is entitled to have to best support our children. If you look on our school website it goes into detail about how we spend our Pupil Premium money and also the impact and the difference it is making. The Government currently fund free school meals for children in Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 2.



From Year 3 upwards children must pay for meals unless entitled to receive free school meals. The cost per week is £11.00, £2.20 per day. Dinner money can be paid weekly or on a daily basis using the school's online payment system (SIMS Pay). Please contact the school office to request login details and in the meantime, cash can be accepted during the first week couple of weeks at the start of term while you register with the online payment system. Thank you.

Staffing Updates

We warmly welcome Miss Tomlinson, Ms Loveridge and Miss Sugden to our teaching team. We also welcome Miss Paige and Miss Halliday to our support staff team and Mrs Train and Miss Brocklebank to our admin team. Congratulations to Mrs Jouanny who has given birth to her baby boy. Mr Sutherland is not in school this term and we welcome Mrs Matthews as Acting Deputy. We wish Mrs Clarke well as she leaves on 24 September to begin her maternity leave and Mrs Matthews will oversee EYFS during her absence.



Site Regulations

To support Health and Safety and keeping children safe, parents are reminded the school is a no smoking site (this includes e-cigs/vaping); also please do not bring dogs (except guide dogs), or other animals on to the school site – thank you for helping with this.



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, and bikes and scooters at speed would be too dangerous. Our new bike and scooter shelter will be completed by October as well as it has been partly funded by Henry Boot.

Dropping off and Picking children up

Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 children must be collected from school by an adult or a person 16 years and over.

All teachers are aware of these arrangements; we will keep children until parents arrive – thank you.

Please could you also make your end of day expectations clear to your child/children so they know who is meeting them and where to meet them? We tell children to report to the staff on duty on the playground or return to their teacher if whoever is meeting them is not where they expect them to be. Please follow one way systems and adhere to our staggered start and finish times to help keep us all safe - Thank you.



Keeping children Safe

At our school we recognise that your child is our responsibility and concern.

We want to work in partnership with you and discuss with you any concerns we may have, or that you may have. It is a priority to inform and involve you at every stage in your child's time at the school. Since the first priority is your child's welfare, there may be rare occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies even before we contact you. The East Riding Safeguarding Children's Partnership has laid down the procedures we follow, and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of all.

If you would like more information about our procedures, or the policy, please contact Mrs Allen in the office.



Mr Sutherland is the designated Child Protection Co-ordinator but in his absence Mrs Matthews will be standing in. Mrs Harper is the Deputy Child Protection Co-ordinator.

Mr Campbell is the school Safeguarding Officer

Keeping children safe is all our responsibility. If parents have their own concerns in or outside school they need to telephone the East Riding Council switchboard who will then pass them on to trained advisors who can listen to their concerns and provide appropriate advice and/or action.

'GOING CASHLESS'

As mentioned previously in the newsletter, we are becoming a cashless school. Therefore, please, if you have not already done so, arrange to contact the school office and request a login to enable you to access the school's online payment system – SIMS Pay. Payments for meals, music lessons and the Breakfast Club can be made through the online system. We will accept cash until you have successfully logged into the system

School Uniform – Reminder

We would like our pupils to be proud of our uniform and it shows that they are part of our school community. We would remind parent/carers of what is acceptable, as school uniform, below:

School logo sweatshirts/cardigans in royal blue

Grey, black trousers/shorts/pinafores/dresses/skirts

White polo shirts/blouses, (blue gingham dresses in summer)

Jewellery is not permitted although we appreciate that some children do wear pierced ear rings and we request that these be taken out or covered on PE days.

We request that children's names are clearly marked on all items of uniform. Thank you for your support with this.



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