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**Message from Mrs Hird**

We have had an exciting week in school, including a trip up to the forest area for our outdoor learning session. EYFS/KS1 have been working on our ‘Resilience Road’, talking about the different kinds of families who might live in each home, and both classes have produced their lists of ‘trusted adults’. We have also been choosing names for our classes and will be asking you to vote for your favourite before the end of the half term.

We welcome parental feedback and will be sending out a questionnaire later in the year to gather your views. However, if you have something to say in the meantime (either positive or raising an area for improvement), please do feel free to get in touch. We have received some lovely emails from parents this week praising the provision in school and the changes we have made to drop off and pick up arrangements, which are hopefully helping with social distancing.

**Harvest**

Harvest is usually a fantastic time in schools with lots of singing (‘cauliflowers fluffy…’ is one my favourites!), celebration and plentiful donations. Whilst the covid restrictions mean that this year’s harvest festival will need to look slightly different, we are still very keen for our pupils to understand the meaning of harvest and to have the opportunity to make donations to those in need.

We will therefore be delivering a virtual celebration, which we will share with you later this half term. With regards to donations, we are sadly unable to accept these in school but instead would like to invite all our families to make a donation either directly to a food bank or via a food charity collection at a supermarket. One of our governors had the fantastic idea of taking a photograph of you and/or your child making a donation and then either emailing it to school or posting it on our Facebook page, with the hashtag #givingforharvest so we can celebrate the kindness of our children.

Thank you in advance for your support.

**Remote learning**

We will be sending out a letter early next week detailing our plans for remote learning in the case of any school closure. This will include a form to confirm whether or not you will need to borrow a school iPad during this time.

*Mrs Hird*

**Attendance:** This week’s attendance was a fantastic **98.2%** so, again, above our target of at least **97%.**

**News from the Classes**

This week **KS1** have taken part in longer daily Read Write Inc. Phonics sessions. They focus around a particular text, which is always entertaining and allow for lots of discussion. Please could all parents continue to help their child with the tricky Red Words that will be either in their book bag, or in the front of their home-reading book? Thank you.

Years 1 and 2 have finished writing their versions of the Three Little Pigs story this week and have shared them by reading them to each other. What a super job they have all done! Such wonderful storytelling language with really impressive vocabulary, interesting additional details and humorous endings. The expression in their voices as they read their stories was really delightful as well. Well done to all of them.

We had a fabulous Forest School session on Wednesday, in glorious sunshine and it really lifted everybody’s spirits. It is really lovely to be able to see the seasonal changes that are happening around us in a woodland setting and the children enjoying being outside.

This week’s **Star of the Week** is **Alfie Harding** for working hard in his new reading group.

**Messages for EYFS**

Learning Journals

All of the children have their red Learning Journals in their book bags. Please enjoy sharing their work together and then return the book to school on Monday morning. Please date and add a comment to the inside cover of the book. Thank you.

Tapestry

Thank you very much to those parents who have been posting observations onto Tapestry. We have shared some lovely videos of storytelling and salmon leaping!

If you haven’t already activated your account please do so as there are many observations for you to share with your child.

As writers this week, **KS2** have been imitating a text, remembering it word for word, then writing it out on our own. Next week this will help us to create a story on our own.

During maths lessons, we have been multiplying 3 and 4 digit numbers by 1 digit in years 5 and 6 and rounding to 10, 100 and 1000 in years 3 and 4.

We had a great time at Forest Schools this week, finding a new place for our KS2 base camp and discussing the pros and cons of our chosen location.

We have also continued with our Stone Age artwork today.

This week’s **Star of the week** is **Jack** for some excellent writing work and superb effort in all his work.

**IMPORTANT – New Procedure at Pick up Time**

You will hopefully all have seen the information about the new procedure for the end of school that was announced through MCAS, and also the Facebook page, on Monday, as follows:-

*To allow for more social distancing, whilst still keeping the children safe, please could we ask KS1 parents to use the double gate at the top and make their way to the back playground. The children will be handed over to parents here and you should then exit out of the double gate.*

*KS2 parents should use the “main” small gate and socially distance on the lower half of the front playground. Children will come out of the usual door at the front and will be handed over. You should then exit out of the “main” small gate.*

*Thank you for your co-operation.*

If you have children in both classes, please collect the younger ones first and Mrs Walley will keep the KS2 pupils until you come round for them.

**Parents Evenings – Week commencing Monday, 19th October**

The parents evening module is now “live” on MCAS (listed down the left of the screen) for you to book an appointment and meetings can be delivered online via Zoom or by telephone. In order for it to run smoothly, meetings must be strictly timed to 10 minutes. Please let us know if you would like Zoom or telephone by emailing admin or by clicking the envelope next to the Teacher’s name when you are on the “Booking” screen (hopefully this will work but as it hasn’t been used before we are not sure!!)

For Zoom, teachers will set up a meeting code which they will send out to you. When you use this to enter the meeting, you will be taken to a waiting room and teachers will allow you entry to the meeting from here. In order for this to work effectively, we ask that you change your screen name to your child’s name so that we can easily identify you (sometimes the make of the phone is used as the default screen name).

As this is the first time that we have run parents’ evenings in this way and we are relying on technology, please bear with us if we encounter any difficulties and we will try to let you know about any problems should they occur!

**EYFS and KS1** appointments will run from 2.10pm until 5.10pm on Monday, 19th October.

**KS2** parents can choose from Monday 19th, Tuesday 20th or Wednesday 21st and appointments are available from 3.40pm to 5pm. To select the appropriate day go to the box, top left on the booking screen, and a dropdown arrow comes up.

**Secondary Transfer**

**Message from Caedmon College Whitby – Years 5/6 Virtual Open Evenings**

*Due to Covid-19 it isn’t possible for us to organise an on-site Open Evening this autumn. We're really disappointed that we can’t invite you to our Normanby site to see our great facilities and to meet our staff and students in person.*

*Instead we’re organising a series of online meetings to explain our curriculum offer, our transition and pastoral systems, as well as how we organise the school. Book your place now by following this link:*

*https://forms.gle/21vu1gWQgv6WAfzn6*

*We look forward to meeting you on Tuesday 13th or Thursday 15th October.*

*Simon Riley (Principal) and all of the staff and students at Caedmon College Whitby*

If you would like to visit for a personal tour of the school, bookings are being taken for most late afternoons, early evenings and Saturday mornings over the next two weeks. Contact them on: [post@ccwhitby.org](mailto:post@ccwhitby.org)

**Eskdale School Tours**

As previously notified to year 6 parents, Mr Fyfe at Eskdale is happy to take families on tours of the school from 4pm until 7.30pm on most school days apart from Friday and part of Wednesday. He will take one family at a time and

will ask that they follow basic PPE guidelines such as face mask and keeping a reasonable distance from one another. These tours will last 30 mins and can be booked via Miss Becky Sutcliffe, PA to the Headteacher.

Eskdale will also be posting YouTube videos of the school tour over the next few weeks. If you would like to speak to Mr Fyfe, please feel free to contact the school.

Please remember that applications for a Secondary School place next September must be made by **31st October**.

**Flu Immunisation Clinic**

As you are aware, the flu immunisations were given to all the children, whose parents had given consent, in school on Monday. If your child/children did not receive it in school, and you would still like them to be immunised, there will be a Clinic at The Met in Whitby on 20th October between 3.30 and 5pm. Please contact the Team on 01423 542360.

**Medical Rolling Consent Form 2020/21**

There are still a few forms that have not been completed and returned - please do this as soon as possible as it is very important that we have up to date medical and contact details for when pupils are off the premises during this school year. Please also remember to notify us of any changes to these details throughout the year. If you need a further copy of the form, please contact Mrs Blacklock.

**Christmas Shoebox Appeal**

We won’t be doing Christmas Shoeboxes in school this year but if anyone would like to do this at home, please ask Mrs Blacklock for a leaflet or speak to Jen Littlewood who will be passing the completed boxes on.

**Next Week**

**Monday** Music Lessons with Alix Lillie. Please remember instruments

**Wednesday** **All pupils** Outdoor learning. Children can come to school dressed in appropriate clothing - **lots of warm layers, with waterproofs, wellies and gloves**.

**Thursday** **PE for** **all pupils**. Please make sure children have their PE kit in school. EYFS/KS1 to arrive in PE kit; KS2 to arrive in uniform (we will change into kit before our lesson).