



# SLINGSBY C.P. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Slingsby C.P. School  
The Green  
Slingsby  
North Yorkshire  
YO62 4AA  
(01653) 628370

Head Teacher:  
Mrs G Metcalfe  
BA HONS NPQH

## Message from Mrs Metcalfe

Firstly, can I thank you all for your ongoing support. I am sure you can appreciate the challenges the escalating situation around Coronavirus is presenting to us at school. At the moment we will follow Government advice and whilst we have done everything we can to stay open, we are waiting for further directives from the local authority to guide us into our next steps. As of 10am today, we understood that school will be closed from 3:30pm tomorrow until further notice. I will of course keep you updated and give you as much notice as I can if things change. This will be through the T2P App and the website. We have already set up a page on our website 'In the event of School Closure' where work and advice is being posted. This is the place to look if you are currently self-isolating as teachers are already providing the work being currently covered. There is also a list of handy websites to look at. My advice would be to keep track of children's learning, but turn a negative situation into a positive one and explore nature in your own environment. Do some gardening, bake some cakes, enjoy mindfulness colouring, read lots of books or play board games together!

In response to the current situation we had taken some additional precautions in school. We continued to re-emphasise the importance of washing hands regularly, particularly on arrival at school and both before and after lunch. Unfortunately, we were unable to source hand sanitiser but we had a good supply of soap in all toilets. Some parents had given their children personal hand sanitiser, and children could use this whenever they felt the need to. We have cancelled all non-essential school activities such as trips, visitors into school, sports fixtures, Celebration Assemblies etc. for the foreseeable future. We continue to advise parents to drop children off at the main school door to help us reduce contact.

Can I remind you all to please follow Government advice regarding self-isolation. **It is vitally important that you do not send your child in to school if they or anyone in their household are displaying any of the Coronavirus symptoms, however mild.** These symptoms, as I am sure you are aware, are a new, persistent cough and/or a high temperature. If a child feels unwell in school, we will contact home and ask for them to be collected immediately. We expect that families will follow the 14-day rule and self-isolate as a whole. Absences due to self-isolation will of course be authorised and no parent or carer will be penalised due to these absences. If you declare that your child is off school due to self-isolation we will record their absence from school for 14 days. For all other absences, please continue to contact school on a daily basis.

If you have any specific questions, concerns or need any advice please contact the school office via email, but please **limit your contact to absolutely essential** as we are dealing with large volumes of communications. **In the event of a personal emergency, please phone school directly.** Do not ring school about work as how to access work has been set out clearly in a letter to you and is available on the website under 'Home' and then 'News'. The work itself is under the tab 'In the Event of School Closure'.

Best wishes to you all in these difficult times.

## School News

- Given the current circumstances and until further notice, from today the Newsletter (which will continue weekly), letters and school reports will only be sent to you by email. We will contact you if we do not have your email address. Please notify the Office by Friday if you have recently changed your email address or if you do not wish to

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*We are all guided by the Slingsby Values for Life: Respect, Honesty, Resilience, Expectations and Caring for Others*

receive correspondence by email. Your details will not be shared with any third parties and will only be used in accordance with our GDPR Privacy Notice. You may opt out of this at any time by contacting the Office.

- Notices will continue to be put on the Teachers2Parents App as usual so please check this regularly.
- School work will be put on the school website during term time under the new tab "*In the Event of School Closure*" on a weekly basis. Please click on this tab first before clicking on the specific class of your child as the introductory page holds a lot of general information. You will see there is a suggested daily timetable and links to resources. Newsletters are also available on the website.
- Games Club and Chill Club is on tonight but Art Club has been cancelled for tomorrow.
- Against all the odds, we managed to complete parents' evening this week so hopefully all those who requested an appointment either met with the teachers or spoke on the telephone. Full school reports will still be provided at the end of term via email which will summarise your child's term.
- Regrettably all visits and visitors were cancelled this week but everything will be reviewed for next term.



### **After-School Clubs – Please make sure you keep your account in credit before 31<sup>st</sup> March**

The outstanding debt for clubs this week stands at **£486.74** and **£255.50** for lunches. Debt is starting to creep up again and it's particularly important that all debts are paid by the financial year end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Please be reminded that clubs and meals **MUST** be paid in advance and kept in credit. We will still be monitoring debt weekly so please check your accounts.



### **Would you like to grow your own vegetables?**

After the success of last year's children's entries for the Slingsby Produce Show in September, the Produce Show Committee would love the school children to enter again. The committee will provide any child who wishes to try to grow a pumpkin or a marrow with a starter kit including a seed, a pot and compost together with growing instructions. These will need to be planted before Easter, and by September you should have a fantastic vegetable to enter into the produce show! This would be a great project especially if you are self-isolating. Please email the school office if you wish to receive a pumpkin or marrow starter kit.



### **FOSS News**

**Plant Sale THIS FRIDAY** - The plant stall will go ahead this Friday. There won't be a stall, but we will place the plants on The Green opposite the entrance to Class 1 and the main entrance. There will be donations buckets and parents can also donate directly to school via ParentPay to avoid unnecessary social interaction. We ask that everyone follow the Government's advice regarding social interaction and avoid forming queues.

**Easter Trail CANCELLED** - In light of the government's announcements this week we feel we must cancel the Easter Trail that was scheduled for Sunday 29th March. We feel this is consistent with current government advice, and apologise to those who had started making plans.

**ON HOLD: Scarecrow Weekend and Duck Race** - For the time being, organisation of the Scarecrow Weekend and Duck Race are on hold as we wait to see how the situation unfolds and await further government advice. FOSS would like to offer apologies to those who have already spent a lot of time working on these events or who have made plans to attend. It is our hope that we will be able to hold some events before the end of the school year.



### **Britain in Bloom Competition**

Thornton le dale Village Hub and Mrs. Bee are asking the children of Ryedale to spread the important environmental theme 'Bee Friendly' through a creative writing competition for all 7–11-year olds. Entries can either be posted to Denise Rajab at Thornton le Dale Hub, Comber House Lodge, Thornton le dale YO18 7QH or emailed to her at [drajab@trmkt.com](mailto:drajab@trmkt.com). Please see the attached information sheet for further details.



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