



SLINGSBY C.P. SCHOOL NEWSLETTER Thursday 5th November 2020

Slingsby C.P. School
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Head Teacher:
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School News

- We hope very much that this finds you all safe and well. We are truly sorry that we have had to temporarily close only days into this new half term, however, the safety of our school community is paramount. Closing is always a last resort, but the decision was made in collaboration with the LEA, Public Health England and school governors. We were reassured by the LEA that the systems we have implemented, and actions taken are exactly in line with all the guidance. By creating four separate bubbles and following strict cleaning regimes, we have hopefully significantly lowered the risk of many of the children in school contracting Covid-19. A deep clean will take place while we are closed. We feel grateful that most of us had an undisrupted last half term during which time the children adapted extremely well to life in school. We are confident that they will all continue to do so once back in school in a couple of weeks.
- A huge thank you to all those parents who have been in touch with school to express their support and understanding. We have been overwhelmed by your kind words especially given the challenges many of you are facing yourselves. By working together, we will get through this!
- The teachers are regularly updating the Home Learning pages on the website with work and reassuring messages for the children. We would encourage all our children to have a go at what they can and to also watch the videos which are being uploaded by staff; but there is absolutely no pressure to do so. We will continue to work hard with each individual child to ensure their educational and mental health needs are met. If you are struggling with accessing the online resources, please do not hesitate to contact us.
- We have contacted all families who are eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM) to arrange food parcels for the duration of the school closure and isolation periods.
- We know that many are finding life incredibly tough. We are in unprecedented times and it is tricky for adults to manage their feelings never mind our children. Please do not suffer in silence. We will always help and support any family in need as best we can and there are lots agencies who can offer assistance. Please email us on the admin or head teacher email addresses if you need help. The Young Minds charity has a Parent Helpline open Mon - Fri 9am to 4pm 0808 802 5544.
- As we all know, the new national 'Lockdown 2' restrictions come into force today. Please click on the link for guidance, including what they mean for working from home and business closures, and the financial support available. We strongly urge everyone to follow the guidelines for the safety of yourself and others. Of particular note is that parents are able to form a childcare bubble with another household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under; some households will also be able to benefit from being in a support bubble, which allows single adult households to join another household; and it is not mandatory to wear face masks in early years settings during lockdown, however, it is up to the discretion of individuals. Any child is welcome to wear a mask in school should they wish and staff in our school will continue to wear PPE when moving around school. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>
- We will be in touch in due course regarding the re-opening of school and will keep you updated with any relevant news in the meantime via email and the T2P app. We expect all the same staggered start and finish times to remain in place and school clubs will be reviewed nearer to opening.



PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT WE ARE A NUT-FREE SCHOOL.

WE KINDLY REQUEST NO NUTS OR NUT DERIVATIVES ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL IN PACKED LUNCHES OR AS SNACKS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

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

Parent Pay - Refunds

Thank you for the advance payments received for clubs for this half term. If you would like refunding, please contact the school office, otherwise your account(s) will remain in credit for when clubs re-start.



FOSS Update

Annual General Meeting - Thank you to all who joined us at the FOSS AGM including Mr Smith and Mrs Massey on behalf of school. The election of new office bearers took place with Kathryn Fairweather taking on the Secretary role, Lucy Ponting the Treasurer role and Sonja Sedran the Chairwoman role. A **huge** thank you must be extended to Liz Wilson, Mel Staley and Sam Burnett, who step down this year for a well earned rest. Thank you also to our existing and new Committee members. The Minutes of the AGM will be circulated shortly, and will also be available on the FOSS tab on the school website.

Halloween Party -We hope each and every one of your children who attended the party enjoyed it. From the feedback we've received, we feel the event was a success in every way, with a net total of £371.05 raised. Thank you again to our wonderful school staff for making the party happen.

Bags 2 School - Thank you to those who managed to rustle a bag or two together for the collection on Monday. And unusually, even the sun was shining. Whilst we don't have the final figure yet, a collection weight of 230kg was confirmed making an approximate figure of £70.

Easyfundraising- With Christmas not far off, and lockdown in play for the month ahead, you can make such a difference to the amount of money donated to school via www.easyfundraising.org.uk where Friends of Slingsby School are a registered charity. Over 4,000 retailers are associated with the affiliated scheme and last year we raised almost £90 simply from FOSS supporters registering with the scheme and logging in before going to a retailer website to shop. All details of how to register and what they're about are on the site.

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School Shop

School Shop has asked us to advise you that their online service will continue during lockdown.



Bonfire Night

England enters a second lockdown on Bonfire Night, with major displays cancelled and strict rules about gatherings. Some people might still want to let off some rockets in their own back gardens but you must not meet inside or in your garden with family or friends, unless they are part of your household - that is, the people you live with – or a support bubble. Anyone caught in breach of lockdown rules on household mixing, even in a garden, could face a fine starting at £200. If you are found to be the organiser of a gathering of more than 30 people - such as a firework display for family and friends - you could face a fine of £10,000.

If you are still planning to go ahead with a fireworks display please follow the Firework Code:

- Only buy fireworks with a CE mark
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper
- Stand well back
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Direct rockets away from spectators
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors

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- Don't let off fireworks after 11pm

Advice on bonfires

- Check for hedgehogs and other wildlife before lighting your bonfire.
- Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
- Don't build bonfires close to trees, hedges or sheds.
- Don't light a bonfire under an electricity cable
- Don't burn Fuel (e.g. Petrol, Diesel), Household rubbish (e.g. plastics), Aerosol cans, Lighter fluid, Tyres, Fireworks, Gas canisters, Foam, Paint, Anything wet
- Don't leave bonfires unattended.
- Make sure that the bonfire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

Setting off fireworks in the street is a crime. You can report any offences to the police and the fire service.



Please take care, stay positive and find some time for having fun and smiling. It is a challenging time but we will get through this, together.



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