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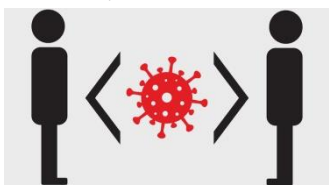
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good half term and managed to avoid the rain! As the country moves towards further restrictions at the end of this week, I can assure you that we will continue to provide a safe and happy place for your children. I would like to say many thanks for your patience and support at this challenging time. It has been lovely to see your children back in school!

A few reminders as we start this half term...

### Pick up and drop off

Only **one** adult per family should drop off and collect and we expect all adults to maintain social distancing rules at these times. We ask that these instructions (particularly timings) are adhered to as gates will be locked promptly. Gates will be open for parents to pass through and these will be closed and locked by school staff. Your support and patience in this structure for the beginning and end of the school day would be appreciated. For older children who arrive at school independently they **MUST** arrive at the appropriate time for the start of their school day and they will not be allowed to play on the yard - this also includes after school.



### School lunches

There is only one change to lunchtimes. If you wish to provide your own packed lunch it can now be in a normal reusable packed lunch box that your child can take home at the end of the day.

### Water bottles

Each child **MUST** bring their own named water bottle which can be taken home at the end of the school day.

### School bags

Children can bring a bag into school with the PE kit, packed lunch and reading folder. They do **NOT** need anything else in school. No child should be bringing pencil cases etc into their class bubble - everything needed will be provided.

### First Aid and Intimate Care

Where it is safe for both the child and adult, care will be given immediately. However, should a child require more intimate care it may be necessary for school to contact parents to collect children and care for them at home.

### What if my child begins to show symptoms of Covid-19?

The Public Health England guidance remains unchanged. The child should self-isolate for a minimum of 7 days and family members for a minimum of 14 days.

### What happens if there is a confirmed case within my child's group?

Should a child or adult within the group test positive for Covid-19, you will be alerted immediately. The rest of their class will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days from the date the group member became symptomatic. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child subsequently develops symptoms.

**Kevin Moloney**  
Headteacher

**NHS**



### Is your child too ill for school?

It can be difficult at the moment knowing when and if to keep your child off school. The link below takes you to an NHS page with lots of information on different illnesses and a checklist of what to do. Remember, you must let school know if your child is absent and the reason for it.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



### Ford Class round-up...

Ford Castle Class had a fantastic outdoor learning day in October, based around Vikings, science and autumn. It involved spending the whole day outdoors rotating through 4 different activities.



The children had fun learning, whilst making the most of the good weather, as they explored forces, understanding scientific experiments and the importance of variables in testing! What better way to understand more about the forces of gravity, air resistance and friction than with an outdoor Teddy zip wire experiment?



Whilst working in groups, the class completed a seasonal scavenger hunt and created beautiful outdoor art with the natural objects they found. This included amazing rockets, faces, patterns, birthday balloons and towns!



The exciting Viking saga of Beowulf gripped all the class! They excelled at choosing a part of this story to re-enact in their groups, be it Grendel killing all the Viking warriors or Beowulf battling with Grendel or Grendel's mother hunting for her revenge. We all loved watching!



The Hipsburn Hoard was created by the Viking Crafters of Ford. Please see their beautiful finished work on display in the Ford Class window.



**Wear your stripes for Pudsey...**

This year, with a little help from our Pudsey friend Mrs Waugh, we are creating a special day to help support Children in Need on Friday 13th November.

- The day will be an optional non-uniform day - come to school wearing as many stripes as you can! There will be prizes for those wearing the most stripes (kindly donated by Mrs Waugh)
- Cherie and Denise will be helping us celebrate with Pudsey cakes at lunchtime
- Each class will be doing fun Pudsey activities including designing their very own Pudsey bandana - there is one for each of the children to take home and keep
- We'll be taking part in Joe Wicks' 'Five to Thrive' session and maybe a bit of Pudsey yoga to boost our healthy living and mental health



This year, to help raise funds for Children in Need, we are going online, so please don't send any cash donations in to school. Instead, we have set up a digital fundraising page which you can find in a pinned post on our facebook page. You can also scan the QR code on the left which will take you straight to the just giving page. A big Pudsey shout out to those of you who have already donated to this deserving cause - I know the children will have great fun raising even more money. Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Johnson

Have you noticed all the Pudseys hiding in this edition of our newsletter?  
See how many you can spot...

**Bikes Wanted**

Do you have a pre-loved bicycle, suitable for reception age, which you would like to donate to school? Bikes in good condition gratefully received! Thank you.

**A bumper crop...**

A big thank you to everyone who dropped off donations for the ADFB just before the half term break. John Knight from the food bank filled a car bootful and sent his thanks:



Almwick District Food Bank,  
Lindisfarne Adult Learning Centre,  
Lindisfarne Road,  
Almwick,

Mr. K. Moloney,  
Head Teacher  
Hipsburn Primary School  
Lesbury,  
Almwick NE66 3PX

24<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

Dear Mr. Moloney,

Once again thank you for your generous Harvest Festival donations which we collected yesterday. We would like to thank you all, staff, parents and pupils alike, for such a magnificent response.

Around this time last year we were helping about 50/70 people per month. At the peak of the Covid pandemic we helped just over 100 families in one week. As you can imagine this demanded some organisation on our part. Thankfully, not only for our own resources, but more importantly for our community, demand has reduced somewhat but is still running at two to three times the level compared to this time last year, and is on the increase once again.

Your donations are truly welcome, particularly as demand on our service increases due to the spread of Covid, with levels of family financial support reducing somewhat.

Whilst most of those we help live in, or close to, Almwick and Shibbottle, we also aim to serve those in need living in more distant and often remote areas. In the case of our food offer at holiday time, we circulate schools within The Duchess School catchment area. We very much depend on the likes of schools, and health professionals identifying need and will always follow up requests made, trusting the judgement of the professionals with whom we have contact.

In the current climate we hope you will excuse this letter coming to you as an e-mail attachment, but we think it better to minimise surface mail.

Thank you again for all your support, we hope you enjoy your half term break, and that all stay safe over these coming months.

Yours sincerely  
John Knight

John Knight  
Trustee





Early years gallery...



*Peek-a-boo!*

Children in preschool had great fun celebrating autumn, Halloween and the outdoors last half term...



*Mind your fingers...*



*There's a bit of a hammering theme going on!*



*A budding gardener...*



*Now, what shapes can we make in the foam?*



I am delighted to let you know that we have been awarded the Music Mark in recognition of the value that we place on music and our commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum. We are also pleased to have had such a large uptake in music tuition this half term - 19% of our pupils are having lessons, which is the highest in the Alnwick partnership of schools! Our pupils are so excited to be learning the flute and violin once again. Well done on becoming a Music Mark School, Hipsburn!

Miss Jones



A reminder that we have a small number of pupils in school with severe nut allergies. Exposure to nuts and nut products can cause a rapid and serious reaction for these individuals. We ask for your co-operation in not sending any nut product in to school, either as a snack or in your child's packed lunch. Thank you.

It was lovely to see so many pupils in Halloween and fancy dress just before the half term break. Here is Alnwick Castle class looking spook-tacular and maybe a little bit scary!



A school dinner costs £2.30  
35 days @£2.30 = £80.50

Menus are on the school website. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 all receive universal free school meals. Lunches are payable for children in Preschool and years 3-6. We ask that you keep on top of lunch payments - in advance or on the day - thank you.

### Payments to school

Please pay promptly for all school lunches, milk and after school clubs. Please put payment in a named envelope, with details of what you're paying for, and drop it in the class box or in the basket in the school's front porch. If paying by cheque, everything can go on the same cheque; if paying by cash, please try to give the exact money as we are trying to minimise items going back and forth between home and school.



This second half of the autumn term is 35 days long - we break up for Christmas on Friday 18th December. Ho, ho, ho