





11th September 2020

### Autumn Newsletter Week 2

#### Thank You!

We would like to begin this week's newsletter with a thank you to our parent community. Whilst we are being as consistent as we can be with the procedures in place and the expectations on children and families, we are mindful that some changes are being made as the time goes on and we settle into school life; we are grateful to parents for their understanding with this. It's really important that parents check their emails and ensure they read all the information shared. If you don't think you're receiving emails then please call the office who will be happy to help resolve the problem, and if you change your email address please do make sure you let us know. Please note that some year groups may receive messages the whole school community don't, and this will be for a specific reason. If you don't receive a message it might be because it's not applicable to your child's class or year group and there is no need to worry. A reminder that whilst school emails come from Scopay, we do not receive replies made to this address, therefore, all emails for the office need to be sent to info.saxon@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

#### What to do if...

On Wednesday, an email was sent home detailing what parents should do if their child or a member of their household falls unwell. The guidance and advice parents are given can be confusing so we hope this email helped clarify what the expectations are. If your child is advised to get a test, please let us know as soon as you have the results. If this is during the day then please call the office, if you find out after 5pm or at the weekend then email the info account which will continue to be monitored at these times. If your child falls unwell in the evening or over the weekend, again, please email the info.saxon address and let us know. The sooner we know a child has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, the sooner we can take the appropriate action. We also know booking a test has not been easy. Our understanding is that the booking system will release available testing centres and slots throughout a day so if you aren't able to book a test straight away at a centre nearby, we suggest you keep trying every half an hour or so until more slots become available.

#### **Social Distancing**

Please can we ask that only one family member collects their child/ren from school? We need to limit the number of adults on site during collection and the adult must come to the collection point; we cannot dismiss children to the gate. Younger children are permitted on site but any children accompanying the adult who is of secondary school age will be asked to wait outside the gates. A reminder that dogs are not allowed on site, even very small dogs that may fit in your handbag! Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

As parents will be aware from the news, there have been schools in Surrey who have had to send home classes where a child has tested positive for COVID-19. We of course want to avoid this and have put in many measures to mitigate the risk, but we all have to have in our minds that it may happen here. Since lockdown restrictions have eased, we've all been able to see a wider group of friends and family which inevitably means closer contact with more people and a greater risk of the virus spreading. Our advice would be to consider the number of contacts the children have whilst still keeping a good balance to their home lives and engaging in safe activities. There is a higher risk of contracting the virus if children are attending a number of activities e.g. swimming lessons, Rainbows, sports clubs etc. and the reality is that should a child test positive in your child's















class, the whole class will be sent home and the household self-isolates for 2 weeks – a situation we're sure parents are keen to avoid.

## **Attendance**

A reminder that any absence from school due to self-isolation or children being off with symptoms and awaiting test results will be authorised. If a child is off sick for any other reason e.g. tummy bug, this too will be an authorised absence.

We are aware parents may have had holidays cancelled due to the quarantine rules and may have rebooked these during school time. In these instances, we ask parents to complete the Exceptional Leave of Absence form as usual. Should there be restrictions placed on you from the holiday company about when your holiday can be taken, we will take this into account when making a decision about authorizing the absence. Please note, you will be asked to provide proof that your holiday must be taken at this given time. In line with our usual attendance policy, holidays being booked during term which don't fall into the above exception will be classed as unauthorised absence.

In recognition of these unusual circumstances and impact on the children's attendance, we are pausing our usual end of term attendance celebration certificates and prizes for now.

#### **Staff News**

Congratulations to Mrs Keane and Mrs Slatter who found out this week that they have successfully gained Higher Level Teaching Assistant status. This is a fantastic achievement following a rigorous training programme and assessment process with Surrey during the Summer Term.

# **School Events Update**

Swimming – usually during the Autumn Term our Year 4 and 5 classes would have their swimming lessons. At the moment, we have decided not to go ahead with swimming this term. We plan for Years 4&5 to swim in the Spring Term and Years 2&3 in the Summer Term, meaning that our Year 1 and Reception children will not be able to swim this academic year at the moment. We know this may be disappointing and this wasn't an easy decision, however, we know parents will understand this is for the children's safety.

Residentials – parents with children in Years 3-6 will have had information in the summer term about the upcoming residentials and the option to begin paying for these. We know parents may want more information before committing to a trip, whether that's related to safety measures or the specifics of what the children experience whilst away. We are currently waiting for more information from the venues, particularly Bristol and Bowles, and once we receive this we will update parents. For now, there is no expectation for parents to give consent or pay towards the cost of the trip. Any money that has been added to Scopay will remain on your account for now.

Day Trips – we are currently reviewing our enrichment opportunities for the Autumn Term and making decisions about whether these trips are safe to go ahead. These year groups will be notified if we plan to go ahead with a trip in due course.

Sharing Data and Information to support children to access local health and wellbeing services
Surrey Children's Community Health Provider, Children and Family Health Surrey, request regular information
from us about our children to support planning and delivery of school based health screening at different points
of a child's life. Information provided to them by the school is Name, Gender, Address and DOB. Assurances
have been received from the Service that this request is in accordance with Government guidelines and adheres
to the required Data Protection standards. If you would like further information please refer to
<a href="http://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy-policy">https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy-policy</a>

### **Facebook**

Throughout the school's closure, our Facebook page was a great way of keeping parents informed of what was happening in school and sharing information. We shall be continuing to post to Facebook with the following daily themes:

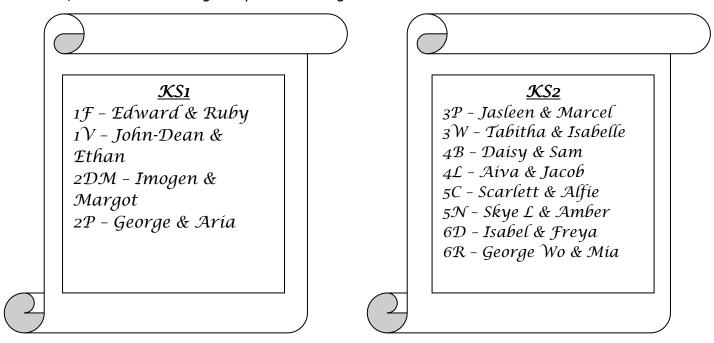
Monday – Maths learning, ideas, reminders and updates

Tuesday – Reading/Talk ideas for engaging children in reading and conversation at home Wednesday – support for children and families mental health and well-being Thursday & Friday – posts of children's learning in school.

The Thursday & Friday posts will be on a rota basis so each class has their learning posted equally. If we do not have your consent to post your child's image on social media but you are happy for them to be added, please use the online form on our website to give your consent. There is a form which also removes your consent if you no longer wish for your child's photo to be shared on Facebook.

# **Golden Learning Celebration**

This week, the children showing exceptional learning are:



### **Stay on Green**



Consistently demonstrating green behaviour choices throughout the entire week and therefore receiving a golden leaf this week were: Ezra (RG); Kush, Jake, Jacob, Amelia & Teddy (1V); Benjamin & Eleanor (2DM); Caleb (2P); Josiyah & Lola (3W); Ethan (4B); Colby (4L) and John-William (6R) very well done!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mrs Davis & Miss Morris Headteachers