



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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*Headteacher: Caroline Hancy*

[head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk)

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

### **THANK YOU AND WELL DONE TO ALL**

Well I think it's fair to say we have just experienced a half-term like no other before!

From a staff perspective, offering a curriculum through a combination of 'on-site' provision **and** remote learning is undoubtedly the toughest scenario to manage, within the current expectations placed on schools. I am also very aware how incredibly difficult it is for parents to support their child(ren) with remote learning at home, whilst also balancing all sorts of other demands including, in many cases, full-time jobs.

Whilst no solution can completely suit everyone's circumstances, the plans we have implemented have been a considered compromise and I am incredibly proud of and thankful for our school community's response. **Children, staff, parents and governors- you have all played your part - your patience, understanding, determination, hard work and support is very much appreciated.**

We anticipate that we may be working towards a full re-opening on 8<sup>th</sup> March, but this will be dependent on advice from Public Health England. An announcement from the Prime Minister is expected on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Therefore, our current arrangements for remote learning and critical worker provision will continue after half term.

### **EVALUATION OF OUR REMOTE LEARNING OFFER**

It had always been our intention to evaluate our remote learning offer once we'd had the opportunity to put the policy into practice.

To this end, I would be really grateful if you could take a little time to reflect on your experience over the past half-term and provide some feedback in the form of 'Three Stars and a Wish'. I would very much appreciate your thoughts on three things that you feel the school has done well with remote learning and an area you feel we could improve on/would be helpful for you at home. Please use the following link to record your response.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BVwTa92E5nx6aMxYv5BgkgWxIVpkSo3hxyk1DRJAFzU/>



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## **CONTACT TRACING DURING HALF -TERM**

I will be on call to conduct contact tracing during the half-term holidays. If anyone develops symptoms in the 48 hours following the end of term, I ask that they seek a test immediately and inform me by emailing [head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk). This will allow me to assist in the identification of any 'close contacts' in school in a timely manner, should a positive result be received.

If we have a positive case, I will send an email to the parents/carers of any affected groups so that they can begin to isolate. If symptoms develop more than 48 hours since being in school, I do not need to be notified. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. I thank you, in advance, for your cooperation on this matter.

## **RETIREMENT NEWS**

Mrs Gilderdale has taken the decision to retire at the end of the academic year.

As you will know, Mrs Gilderdale has been a long-standing member of staff at Dunnington CE Primary. She has had a tremendous impact on the lives of many children in the local community and has made significant contributions to the success of our school over the years. She is also a treasured colleague and friend to us all and will be very much missed.

We hope to arrange a fitting farewell for Mrs Gilderdale and will inform you of the arrangements in due course.

## **GOOGLE MEETS**

Our meetings for the week after half term have been scheduled for home learners as follows:

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February at 1:30pm	Y1 Google Meet with Miss Jarvis
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February at 10:00am (30 mins)	Y2 Google Meet with Mrs Abbott, Mr Garguilo and Mrs Rowntree
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February at 11:15am (30 mins)	Y4 Google Meet with Mrs Priest and Mrs Subritzky
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February at 10:00am (30 mins)	Reception Google Meet with Mrs Gilderdale
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February at 1:00pm (30 mins)	Y3 Google Meet with Mrs Jones and Mrs Todd
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February at 2:00pm (30 mins)	Y5 Google Meet with Mrs Elliott and Mrs Subritzky
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February at 9:00am (30 mins)	Y6 Google Meet with Miss Dickenson

## **REQUEST FROM YEAR 1**

### **Explorers Topic - Volunteers Wanted!**

In Year 1 we will be moving on from Neil Armstrong next half term to talk about other explorers. It's always nice to start the topic by talking about things that are closer to home, in this case talking about how people can be 'explorers' today, visiting different new places, discovering things or perhaps going on adventures.

It occurred to me that it would be really nice for them to hear more about modern day adventures people have been on but, unfortunately, I've had very few exciting experiences myself!



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I was wondering there is anyone out there who's had any adventures they would like to talk to the Year 1 children about? It could be a trip to a different country where you explored more about a culture, climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, going rock climbing in extreme places, sailing long distances or swimming in coral reef - I'm open to any suggestions!

It would most likely be a Google Meet or could be a pre-recorded video, we can be flexible with this. It would be a lovely way to kick off the topic and get the children engaged, so if there's anyone who would consider sharing something it would be really fantastic if you could get in touch by dropping me a quick email on [lucy.jarvis@dunnington.yorkschoools.net](mailto:lucy.jarvis@dunnington.yorkschoools.net) and we can arrange a time to chat it through. I promise we'll be very welcoming and extremely grateful for your support.

And finally, I hope that you can all find an opportunity to take a break from recent routines and to enjoy some rest and recuperation over the half-term holiday. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

With very best wishes,



Headteacher



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