



Sedbergh Primary School

'Excellence in the heart of the community'

School Newsletter No.2 –Thursday 22nd October 2020



School closes today for the half-term holiday. We look forward to seeing you all the second half of the autumn term on Monday 2nd November at 8.50am. If any arrangements change in the meantime, all information will be shared by parents via the school app and on the school website. Please see the remote learning below.

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Healey. All being well and despite these difficult times, Miss Healey will return to school after the half term holiday as Mrs Thompson. We are delighted that Anna and Ben are able to tie the knot!



Many of you have approached me in recent weeks about pedestrian safety in and around Sedbergh. There are growing concerns about the behaviours of drivers on Long Lane, accelerating towards the pedestrian crossing as they approach the edge of town. We have had a number of 'near miss' incidents so please urge your children to be cautious when using the crossing. In addition, the area around the school gates is still crowded with cars, especially on rainy days.

In order to tackle this, we hope to be involved in a community wide action group, that includes representatives from families, the community and our local schools. The group will explore how the situation can be improved and begin to reduce the risks posed to families and children making their way on foot and by pedal to school. In my view, the installation of a pelican or puffin crossing (with traffic lights) on Long Lane would be a good first step.

I will share more news about getting involved in this group when I have it. However, as ever, I ask parents and families to make their way to and from school on foot or bike (where and when possible) and if driving, to park away from the school gates and walk the last few hundred yards to school. I do understand that this is not always possible.

Year 6 Teacher – I am very pleased to announce that Mrs Alison Broom has been appointed as the teacher for Year 6 Oak Class. Alison brings a wealth of teaching experience and expertise to the school and will do a first class job of supporting the Year 6 group. She will begin visiting school and teaching the class for occasional days after the half-term break before beginning to teach full time in January. Mrs Whetton and Mrs Broom will work together closely to ensure the Year 6 group have a very successful year and transition to Secondary School.

Governor News – I am pleased to announce that Sarah Anderson has been selected as our new Parent Governor. As many of you will know, Sarah works in the education sector and has a keen interest in the link between learning at primary school and the impact this has on future options in life. She will have a particular involvement in curriculum development in our school. We welcome her expertise on the board.

THE CHILDREN'S WOOD – GROWING TOGETHER

Sedbergh Environmental Network and a number of local volunteers, led by Barbara Hartley, have been running a project for some time now called the **Children's Wood**. The aim of the project is to find areas in and around Sedbergh where trees can be planted. Many local people have offered land and a huge number of trees have been either grown locally or sourced from charitable organisations. The hope is that more and more children will become involved in the planting of these trees so that they can visit them and watch them grow as the children themselves grow.



Yesterday, on the app and in paper copy, we sent home a suggested half-term activity, 'The Leaf Competition' linked to the 'Children's Wood' and to celebrate autumn. We hope that your family will find the time to complete this activity and return your creation (or a picture of it – see **remote learning**) to school.



Boxes of Hope Cumbria – All children have received their leaflet about the Cumbria Boxes of Hope campaign. Please return your boxes to school by Thursday 12th November 2020.

Remote Learning – In addition to teaching children each day, our teachers are getting prepared for the possible closure of school or a ‘bubble’ in the coming months. If we close, we will return to ‘remote learning’ to ensure you have the information you need to support your child in their learning at home. We understand that for many of you this might prove to be very challenging and nigh-on impossible but for others more straightforward. We hope to make things as easy as possible. All materials for remote learning will be emailed to you via our class emails and you can use these emails to ask questions and return examples or photos of any completed work.



Class email addresses;

Nursery and Reception – Elder Class elder@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
Year 1 and Year 2 – Spruce Class spruce@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
Year 3 – Yew Class yew@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
Year 4 – Ash Class ash@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
Year 5 – Beech Class beech@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
Year 6 – Oak Class oak@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk

We will contact you using the email address you have provided school for our Pupil Contact Information. Your email address will not be shared with any other parent and will only be used for the purposes of contacting you. We will never share your email address and contact details with any other third party without your consent. If you would like to nominate a different email address or remove your consent for us to use this email address, please contact the school office.

Classroom Secrets Kids – all children in Years 1 to Year 6 will have a subscription to this online learning platform. Teachers can assign lessons and activities so that when children log on at home they can see the activities they need to complete. We



are showing the children how this works in school so that you can then access the materials at home. Many of these activities will be presentations with audio, explain and teaching children about what they see on screen. Children can click through, pause and re-listen to sections to support their understanding. This as an alternative to ‘live’ lessons which can prove very problematic for all sorts of logistical and technical reasons.



School buildings development work – Over the half-term holiday the wooden palisade fencing along Maryfell is being replaced. Paul Hoggarth and his team are removing the old fence, installing new fencing and also creating a small compound to separate our bin from the garden and playground area. A number of children do use the school yard as a play area in the holidays. Can I ask that parents make sure that children stay away from the school grounds whilst the contractors are on site. This will mean that children remain safe and the builders can do this much needed work without distraction or concerns about the safety of children. Many thanks in anticipation of your assistance with is.

Diary Dates – From now on, all Diary Dates will be posted on the Events section of the school app. This is under the ‘More’ icon in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen. Please refer to this for any information you need concerning events in school.

Wrap Around Care – I was sorry to announce that currently we are not in a position to establish Wrap Around Care in school. I know that the Local Authority, with the involvement of Tim Farron, are keen to explore a community wide solution to this situation. I am confident that families and the school will be consulted as part of this process.

Sedbergh Food Club will be launching on Thursday November 5th! There are still some spaces left for anyone who wishes to join. The cost is a £6 annual membership fee, then £3 per week. The membership fee is voluntary, as we do not wish that to stop anyone from joining. The food itself comes from FareShare, a national organisation which rescues good food rejected by supermarkets, and redistributes to community groups. The food is of good quality, and will be a mix of larder cupboard items such as tinned goods and pasta, with some fresh fruit and veg, and a small quantity of refrigerated goods. A small amount of items may be short dated, but most will be just as you would find in a supermarket. There is usually enough food to fill a bag for life.

Food trays will be ready to collect every Thursday afternoon between 3.30pm and 6pm from Cornerstone Community Church on New Street. Please let Suzie Pye know if you would like to register. suziejpye@gmail.com
07833534710