



Sedbergh Primary School



'Excellence in the heart of the community'

School Newsletter No.3 – Friday 27th November 2020

Coronavirus – A quick update; despite instances of infection in the town and a handful of children missing some school days to be tested or to self-isolate, I am pleased to say that we still haven't had to close school or any of our 'bubbles' as a result of a child or adult in school testing positive. It is reassuring that our measures in school, and the trouble families are going to in following the national guidance, are working. Thank you to everyone for supporting the community in this way.

As ever, at some point we might need to close, so can I remind parents that if we do, our teachers will contact you, using our class email addresses, with suggested 'remote learning' activities. This is also a good way to keep in touch with our staff about any questions or concerns you have about life in school.



Class email addresses:

Nursery and Reception – Elder Class
Year 1 and Year 2 – Spruce Class
Year 3 – Yew Class
Year 4 – Ash Class
Year 5 – Beech Class
Year 6 – Oak Class

elder@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
spruce@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
yew@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
ash@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
beech@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk
oak@sedbergh-pri.cumbria.sch.uk



Gillian Knipe
Year 1 & 2 teacher

Changes to Staffing in school – From this week, we will start to see some changes to staffing in school. Every Thursday and Friday, Spruce class (Years 1 and 2) will be taught by Mrs Gillian Knipe. Gillian will continue to work in Spruce class for the rest of the academic year and Mrs Lynda Livesey will continue working with the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Livesey continues to be the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCo).

After Christmas, Mrs Alison Broom will begin teaching Oak class (Year 6) full time and Mrs Susan Tholen will begin teaching in Elder class (Early Years) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. This is great news for the Early Years team, as it means we have been able to increase the number of children we can welcome into this class each day. It is fantastic that there are so many children in Sedbergh who are starting to attend our school. Good news for now and for the future!



Alison Broom
Year 6 teacher



Susan Tholen
EYFS teacher



Boxes of Hope Cumbria – Thank you to all the families, parents, children and staff in school who supported the Boxes of Hope initiative. We know that, through your efforts, we will have shone a ray of hope into the lives of many children in desperate circumstances around the world this Christmas!

We have recently revisited and updated our **Home School Partnership Agreement**, adding our **Vision, Values and Focus** Statements. The updated agreement can be found in the 'Parents' section of our school website.

I have asked, in a recent app message, that all families read and discuss this important document as it clarifies how we will work in partnership with you to achieve the very best for each child in our school. Once you have done this, please can we ask families to complete and submit the response form in the 'Consent' section of our school app to confirm that you have discussed the agreement at home. You will know that I am a strong believer in the idea that we all have a shared responsibility in bringing up the children in our community, the responsibility lies with all of us. As the Nigerian proverb says 'Oran a azu nwa', which means it takes a community to raise a child.

Christmas at Sedbergh Primary School – This year, despite everything that is going on in the world around us, we plan to make this Christmas just as special as any other Christmas in school. Here are some of our plans;



- The PTFA are very kindly sponsoring **Christmas craft** activities in school. Every child will bring home a handmade decoration to display at home when we close for Christmas.
- We will still have our traditional **Christmas parties** in class (more details to follow) with some fun and games in the hall and food provided by the school (and funded, again, by the PTFA).
- We plan to produce a **Christmas film**; we'll see each class enjoying some Christmas activities in school; singing, reading poems, playing musical instruments, making and crafting! Linda Allan has kindly offered to assist us with the filming and editing of a video that we will publish on our private school Vimeo channel. We will email a link to all families so that you can watch the video at home. In addition, if any family would like to purchase a DVD of the film, we will make these available to order from school. All proceeds will go to the PTFA.
- We are joining in with the **Western Dales Community Mission 'Follow the Star'** campaign. Some children are producing nativity posters in school and all children will be making a star to bring home to display in windows throughout the festive season.
- Sadly, we will not be having a **Christmas post box** in school this year. However, children will still be able to wish each other and their teachers a 'Happy Christmas' face-to-face.



On Friday 11th December 2020, we will, as usual, join in with the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day appeal. Please don't go out and buy a jumper especially for this occasion, children can come to school in a Christmas jumper if they have one or any bright or festive clothing. We do not want to create any additional expense or waste for your family or our community.



With the continuation of coronavirus and the current lockdown, many of you may be looking to do your Christmas shopping online this year. Please help raise money for the school and sign up to **Easy Fundraising**. It is free and simple to do and costs only a few moments of your time, but means a great deal to the school. Please follow the instructions on the document



we shared on the school app and added below. Thank you for your help and support!



On our school app we have sent out a number of notifications about

support provided by the Council for families and children. **Action for Children** are developing a wide number of activities for supporting you and your family over the Christmas break – please do have a look at these as they are all designed to make life a little bit more straightforward for you and your children. In particular, the Parent Talk site (click on the image below to access their website) can be accessed at any time (by using your email address) if you need support and advice. This is a confidential service where practitioners are available to respond to the needs of the family. You can also look at the site where information is readily available.



Remembrance Day – We marked this day in school with the traditional 2 minutes' silence and activities and learning linked to War, Conflict, Peace and Remembrance. The children produced some fabulous pieces of work linked to this theme. You can view some of this amazing artwork in a gallery on our school website 'News and Events' section.



THE CHILDREN'S WOOD – GROWING TOGETHER

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Sedbergh Environmental Network 'Leaf Competition' over the October half-term break. We had so many fantastic entries and it was very difficult for our judges to select a winner and runner up in every class. A list of prize winners and a gallery of all the entries can be found on our school website, in the 'News and Events' section.

How to sign up to Easy Fundraising



1. Go to Easy Fundraising at www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Under 'Search for a cause' type – Sedbergh Primary PTFA and click 'Support this cause'
3. It is FREE to sign up and can be done by:
 - Signing in with an Apple ID
 - Signing in with a Facebook account
 - Signing in with an e-mail address
4. Once logged in, enter the name of the shop/business you want in 'Search for a retailer' and click on it
5. Finally, click 'Shop now', this will take you to the website of the shop/business of your choice and you can shop like normal

There are over 4,300 shops and sites that make donations, including:

Big Names – Amazon, Ebay, Argos

Business – Viking, Staples, Microsoft Store, Ryman, Enterprise

Entertainment – Groupon, Game, Wowcher

Electricals – Currys PC World, Apple, Samsung, Dyson

Fashion & Beauty – M&S, John Lewis, Debenhams, House of Fraser, Clarks, Gap

Home & Garden – Screwfix, Wickes, Dunelm, Habitat

Insurance – Aviva, Confused.com, AA, AXA, Co-op

Mobiles – Vodafone, Giffgaff, Carphone Warehouse, 3 Mobile, O2

Travel – Expedia, Booking.com, Trainline, EasyJet, Travelodge, Holiday Inn

Utilities – Sky, Virgin Media, British Gas, OVO, Scottish Power



Sign up as **an individual or a business** and help raise money for
Sedbergh Primary School!

amazon.co.uk John Lewis ebay

Booking.com TESCO Expedia

M&S Argos NOT ON THE HIGH STREET Boots

Clarks Waitrose lastminute.com

GAP ASOS discover fashion online Virgin media AVIVA

Thomas Cook DEBENHAMS

