

# **Friday 6 November**

'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'

### **THANK YOU**

Let me say a huge thank you to all those parents who are wearing masks when dropping off or collecting their children. I really appreciate your support.

I know it is a phrase that has been coined many times but, 'We are in this together' and we need to do everything that we can to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. In so doing, we keep each other safe and hopefully the school open.

Obviously I cannot control what parents do outside the school gates but can I emphasise again that once you come through the school gates, ALL ADULTS ARE EXPECTED TO WEAR A MASK (unless they are exempt).

The Department of Education would advise that parents should stay outside the school gates but I feel that given the situation of our school it is safer and is much easier to socially distance in the playground as opposed to outside the school gates.

Therefore, I really appreciate your continued support in terms of wearing masks, social distancing and following the one-way system. Just a 'wee' reminder to Nursery parents that they **SHOULD** follow the one-way system when dropping off at 8.50am and collecting at 2.20pm. You **DO NOT** have to use the one-way system when collecting at 10.50am or dropping off at 12.20pm (as there are children in the playgrounds and there are no other parents in school at these times).

## Tanzania Day & Anti-Bullying Week

Tanzania Day will take place on Friday 27 November. Children shouldn't wear school uniform but come to school in the colours of the Tanzanian flag (green, yellow, black & blue). Unfortunately, we can't have our usual assembly, however all of the children will complete activities in their classroom with an African/Tanzanian focus. In order to sponsor the children in Tanzania all pupils should contribute £2 which can be paid through School Money (from Monday 9 November).

Anti-Bullying Week will be the week beginning, Monday 30 November. The children will engage in lots of activities when they reflect on what bullying is and how it can affect others. This is one of the pro-active methods we use to ensure that all children have a full understanding of bullying and why it will not be tolerated in WPSNU.

#### PE

You may be aware, that there was guidance from DE that schools should not be doing PE with a group of more than 15 children. All schools have received a legal exemption allowing PE to resume as normal.

#### **Christmas Dinner**

Christmas Dinner Day will take place on Friday 18 December. This is always a special day in our school year. Despite COVID19 it will be no less special this year. Obviously the children can't have dinner together in the canteen but dinner will be served to the children in class. Children will not wear uniform on this day but can wear something Christmassy. The day will be spent completing Christmas activities, making Christmas hats, eating Christmas dinner and watching a Christmas movie. SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT THE NORMAL TIME (2.00-2.30)

From today, Christmas dinner can be paid for through School Money. In order for canteen to order the correct amount of food, CHRISTMAS DINNER MUST BE PAID by MONDAY 7 DECEMBER.

Nursery & Y1 Applications will be completed online again this year. The online portal will open at 12 noon on Thursday 7 January and close at 12 noon on Friday 29 January. Parents will be notified on Wednesday 28 April of which school their child has been accepted to. I will provide further information over the next few weeks, including information about Open Night.

**Post Primary Applications** will be completed online this year and I have outlined some key dates below.

- 1<sup>st</sup> March Online application portal opens at 12 noon.
- 6th March Children notified of AQE/GL results.
- 8<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> March Mr Loughins will be available to support parents with the completion of application forms.
- 16<sup>th</sup> March Online application portal closes at 4.00pm.
- 19<sup>th</sup> June Parents notified of which school their child has been accepted to.