



Introduction

In the week which saw the school mark its 25th birthday on our current site, we have also completed our first full week of the 2020/21 academic year. It has been wonderful to see how well all the children have settled into routines and general school life. We are so lucky to have such resilient children who are capable of picking up right where they left off in March and it is testament to their character as to how well this has happened throughout the school.

As all of you know, yesterday we were advised by Public Health England that there had been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. Many of you were naturally concerned about this and I thoroughly understand why. Please rest assured that, having taken direct advice from both Public Health England and the DfE, what we have put in place is in line with appropriate guidance. With cleaning taking place daily in all areas of the school, and strict social distancing guidelines being adhered to, we have mitigated the risks as far as possible.

I know this must be very stressful as a parent but I hopefully have reassured you in some way. Thanks also to all those parents who have come up to me today to discuss your concerns and offer your support at this time. It is lovely to have such a wonderful school community to belong to.

As always let us know if there is anything further we can help you with and feel free to contact us at the school office.

Mr White

Risk Assessment

We will continue to review all aspects through our risk assessment during the coming weeks. Here are some key reminders:

- We would like to remind all adults coming to school that 2m distancing should be maintained between adults at all times. This includes in communal areas such as the bike sheds.
- Once you have collected your child, please can you exit the school site quickly. Please do not stay and play in the school grounds. Again, this is to help keep everyone safe and not disturb the learning that is still taking place in classrooms.
- Only **one** adult should come onto the school site to drop off and pick up children. This will ensure we keep the adults on the school site to a minimum.

Illness and Absence

We realise that there are a number of colds and sniffles going round the children and it is a difficult time knowing what to do about this. We have sent you a flowchart that should help you when making a decision about whether your child should attend school. You can also find a copy on our Twitter feed.

(<https://twitter.com/acombprimary>).

Welcome Meetings

As I mentioned last week, we are unable to host our usual welcome meetings this year so instead have put together short presentations of key information for each year group. Please follow the link below which will take you to the webpage where these can be found.

<http://www.acombprimary.org.uk/parents/welcome-presentations/>

Charity of the Year



We are pleased to announce that our charity of the year this year will be 'Bereaved Children Support', a local York based charity which looks to support bereaved children in families across the city. For more information, please visit <http://www.bcsy.org.uk/>.

Parents' Evening

As many of you know, we would normally have parents' evening at the start of the second half term. As we can't have parents in school due to current restrictions, we would like instead to offer parents a short phone call at the beginning of the week commencing 12th October 2020. Parents will be able to book online as usual via <https://acomb.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. The booking system will open on the 28th September at 7pm and close on the 6th October at midnight.

The focus of the call will be on how your child has settled into their class and the teacher's first thoughts, broadly, about your child's learning.

Teachers will be ringing from phones that will withhold their numbers so this is something to consider when it is your appointment time.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We don't want to let Covid stop us from holding charity events in school as they are an important part of teaching children skills of empathy, understanding and kindness to others. This year we would like to hold a virtual coffee morning for MacMillan Cancer Support. To do this, we want to invite you to bake something at home with your children and send us photos of your cakes, biscuits, puddings etc via our Twitter feed. You will also be able to donate online – we will send out details of how to do this as soon as the donation page is set up.

The date for our coffee morning will be next Friday, 25th September, but of course you can do your baking at any time and tweet your photos to @acombprimary with the hashtag #Macmillancoffeemorning.

Warm Clothing

It is a requirement that we have as many open windows and doors as possible to ensure adequate ventilation. As a result, some of the children have said they have felt cold. Please remember to send them in adequate layers of clothing, for indoors and outdoors.



Change of Address

If you have changed your address, phone number or email address, please let us know by emailing office@acomb.pmat.academy and we will update our records. It is, however, your responsibility to update your details on ParentPay.

School Crossing Patrol

Malcolm is becoming increasingly concerned about many younger children who are approaching his crossing without supervision from an adult. Can we please reinforce the importance of keeping your children close to you at all times when near the main road at the top of West Bank. Please also remember that cyclists should dismount when crossing the road at this point.

Dogs on the Playground

We would like to remind everyone that dogs (except support dogs) are not permitted on the school grounds during drop off and pick up times.

Flu Immunisation Date – Advanced Notice

Immunisations are still due to take place at school on Tuesday 24th November 2020. Please see the attached letter with the online link to the booking form which must be completed by parents/carers (not the school).

Pathfinder Newsletter

Please find this week's newsletter attached.

Reception Parents

For all Reception Parents/Carers
Soon we will be starting our 'Me and My Family' topic. To help us with this, please email a photo of your family to the school office (office@acomb.pmat.academy) by Friday 9th October. Thank you. E. Peggs and K. Bradley

Pokémon Cards

Please make sure that your child does not bring Pokemon cards to school as we do not want them to get lost. We'd also like to avoid the inevitable disputes that occur when the children show and/or swap them. Thank you for your support with this.