



Head of School's Introduction

We've finally made it to the end of the Autumn Term and I think you'll all agree that it has certainly been an interesting one for our children, you as parents and our wonderful staff. Everyone has banded together brilliantly to create a nurturing home and school environment for each child in our care and I must thank you and my staff for all that you have done to ensure this. Acomb Primary School is certainly a very special place to work.

I want to take this chance to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and festive break. Look after yourselves and your loved ones and I will see you all on January 4th ready to tackle 2021.

Take care,

Mr White

Weekly News

NEW: Christmas Holiday Covid Arrangements

As our school prepares for the end of term, we wanted to contact all parents and carers to explain our coronavirus reporting arrangements for the Christmas holidays.

The Department for Education published new guidance last week which requires schools to be contactable for the first six days of the holidays to assist in the contact tracing of any confirmed coronavirus cases within the school.

Please see the attached letter for more information on how to contact school.

REMINDER: Health and Safety

Covid 19

If ANYONE in your household, childcare bubble or support bubble has Covid symptoms your family should isolate and your child/ren cannot come to school. A Covid test should be arranged immediately for the individual showing symptoms. If a test is booked for anyone in these groups who is NOT displaying symptoms the rules are the same - please don't send your child/ren to school until you have the result. If it is negative, before your child/ren can return to school, the result of the test should be emailed to office@acomb.pmat.academy. If anyone in these groups has a positive test result, please contact us and we will advise about quarantine periods and work to do at home. Thank you.

NEW: Time Capsule

You may be aware that we have a time capsule in school that was sealed originally in 1996 when the school first opened on this site. It was then opened and resealed in 2000, with more added to it. The date allocated to open the capsule was 12/12/2020 - which was actually last Saturday. Originally, we had planned to do some work this term about the history of the school, leading up to this date and then make it into a special event before resealing it for another 20 years. However, because of Covid, we didn't feel we could do it justice, so we have postponed this for 6 months or so. We will be doing some work in the Spring and Summer terms about the history of the school, dating back to 1894 when the school first opened in Acomb up to the present day. We have some wonderful archive material that will help us with this work and we are hoping to work with Lee and Dawn Threadgold from Animated Objects once again to produce a lasting memory of this work. Once we have set a firm date for the capsule to be opened, we will let you know and will hopefully be able to share this exciting time with the whole school community.

In the new year, we will write to you again with more details of our plans.

NEW: Pringles Tubes

Next term, KS1 will be doing a DT project that will require 90 full-size Pringle (or own brand) tubes with lids. We would really appreciate it if people could start collecting these for us over the next few weeks. Please drop them off at the school office where they will be quarantined before the children use them. Thank you.

REMINDER: Out of School Club

Due to the ongoing impact of Covid and around parent/carer working arrangements, we will be changing the OOSC opening hours. This will now run from 3pm until 5.30pm beginning on the 4th January 2021. Due to the



small number of children in the club between 5.30-6pm it is no longer sustainable for us to provide this service for those last 30 minutes. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause you, but it is the best way to secure the future of the club and its staffing. We will review this at Easter and update you about the plans for the summer term.

REMINDER : Parent Governor Role

We currently have a vacancy within the Governing Body for a new Parent Governor. This position is becoming available after Christmas. We will send out information about this when we return to school on 4th January.

NEW: Charity Bingo Cards

Thank you to all families who purchased a charity bingo card. We collected £134 to send to Bereaved Children's Support York.

NEW: Year 6 Chromebooks

In the New Year, all year 6 children will have the use of their own chrome book in school. For this reason, we'd like to ask all children to bring a set of inexpensive plug-in headphones (not wireless) to be kept in school. Here are some links to some low cost sets:

Soundlab Headphones: <https://amzn.to/34on6sj>

Sony Headphones: <https://bit.ly/3r8vNRc>

NEW: Team Point Winners

The blue team has gained the most points this half term so they will have a non-uniform day on Friday 8th January. Well done blue team!

Regular Updates 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.

Pathfinder Newsletter

The Pathfinder newsletter can be found at <https://pathfinder.academy/news/>

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>).