



St. Wilfrid's CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mark North.
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Telephone: 0115 9652775 email: head@st-wilfrids.notts.sch.uk

14th October 2021

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the Autumn half term – the last seven weeks have flown by. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first half term as headteacher, and would like to thank all parents / carers who have made me feel so welcome.

Parents may have seen the invitation to a parent and carer forum / Meet the Head Teacher session, due to take place after half term – a reply slip is included below. Parents can reserve a place by either completing and returning the slip below to school, or emailing the school office.

During the event, I will say a little about myself and my ethos, discuss school improvement initiatives, and work with parents on our school's vision and mission statement.

Zach Bailey's funeral

We have already talked to Year 6 pupils and staff about ways we can remember Zach in school. We will communicate more about this in due course.

Zach's funeral will take place on Thursday 21st October at 1pm at St Wilfrid's Church. Due to limited space in church, only those invited by the family will be able to attend. The hearse will pass along Main Street in the village on the way to the church.

School Football Team

The school football team recently played their first match of the season against Richard Bonington Primary School. They performed superbly well and, after going behind to an unfortunate goal in the opening minutes, took a 3 – 1 lead. Having rained shot after shot on the opposition's goal (their goalkeeper was undoubtedly their man of the match), Richard Bonington managed to score two late goals, with the game ending in a 3:3 draw. Congratulations to Oscar and Taine who scored the goals, and to all the children who represented the school so well.

School Dinners

Like much of the country, the catering team are having difficulty with supplies of some products. On some occasions, they are not aware of this until the very last minute. Therefore, they sometimes have to substitute items, though staff always do their best to ensure replacements are suitable.

Harvest Festival

Year 2 parents and carers were able to take part in Year 2's Harvest festival worship last Friday. We were able to seat around 60 people in the hall, socially distanced, who very much enjoyed the children's presentation linked to colours and Harvest. The pupils singing was exceptional, as were their narrations. Well done to all children involved.



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Deputy Head Appointment

I am pleased to inform parents that we appointed a new Deputy Headteacher this week. Unfortunately, I need to wait for her current school to give permission for me to give her name (as they will need to let her current pupils know). I will do this as soon as I can.

Covid

Today we had two confirmed cases of covid amongst pupils, and therefore reintroduced bubbles to reduce the risk of transmission across school. Before today, we had been fortunate to have not had any confirmed cases of Covid amongst children or staff in school. However, we are aware that a large number of children are contracting covid, and cases are rising.

Please be assured that amongst children, the symptoms are usually relatively mild (often a nasty cough / flu like illness), but it is important the risk of transmission to older or vulnerable people is reduced.

School has an outbreak management plan in place in school to use various controls should we have a significant outbreak. These include the reintroduction of bubbles, changes to lunchtime arrangements, and changes to arrangements for other communal events.

The best way we can reduce the risk of an outbreak (and having to reintroduce bubbles for a longer period), is by parents and carers testing children as soon as they develop symptoms – a new cough, a temperature, or a change in taste or smell – your support with this is very much appreciated. Using lateral flow tests regularly when children are not symptomatic is advised.

Please be aware that lateral flow tests are not intended to be used where people have symptoms – these are intended for regular monitoring where people do not have symptoms.

PCR tests need to be used where there are symptoms.

Should any children receive a positive test during the half term holiday, please email the office to let us know in case we need to make adjustments in school.

Parent School Association (PSA)

I am very pleased to let parents know that the PSA recently entered a competition run by Persimmon Homes, the prize of which is (unbelievably) an additional £100,000 classroom. If we won, we would use as an Arts Centre (there are additional, significant, runners up prizes). There are several finalists – the winner will be decided by votes from the public – see the information below detailing how to vote. I understand you are allowed to vote once a day from the same ip address. I will let you know the outcome in due course.

The PSA met last night to discuss various initiatives planned for the year. Whilst we will not be able to run the usual Christmas fayre, they are planning to organise a carols and mulled wine outdoor event and raffle. If any parents have any raffle prizes, these would be very welcome. Further details will be provided after half term.

Inset Day

Please remember that tomorrow, Friday 15th, is an INSET day. School will reopen on Monday 1st November.



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Have a great half term.

Mark North

Headteacher

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St Wilfrid's PSA

Please vote for us!

We are in the final of the Persimmon Homes funding competition and we could win **£100,000** for school!

You can vote once per day.

Scan below to vote or see the PSA Facebook page for the link.

Thank you for your support.

