



September 2020

# Esh Winning Primary School NEWSLETTER

## Welcome back!

Welcome back to all of our children, families and staff. It has been so lovely to see everyone again and to be able to speak face-to-face. It was particularly heart-warming to see the children smiling and enjoying being in school again. This has been a hard miss for all of us and I, like everyone, am hoping that we do not find ourselves in the same position again. On that note, I would like to say a huge "Thank You" to all of you for following our new systems and procedures: these are all from the guidance provided by the government and the local authority. I know that there will still be worries and concerns and this is only natural during such an upsetting time but, if you have anything to ask about school, please contact the school office.

We have many new friends that have joined our school this week and they have quickly settled in. Your children have made sure that they feel welcome and comfortable by being so friendly and kind; I would expect nothing less from them. We are also looking forward to welcoming back our Nursery and Reception children on Monday, so expect those gates to be a little busier again!

Finally, thank you so much for continuing to support the school – the children appear extra smart to me this week, especially having spent many months of seeing the children out of school uniform. They all look like they are part of the Esh Winning Team again! Back in school where we all belong.

Take care and keep safe. Mrs Hodgson, Headteacher



### If you have coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

[Get a test now](#)

Do not leave home for at least 10 days after your test

[Please see separate sheet for up to date information on coronavirus](#)

## Please can all parents remember the new procedures in place for drop offs and collections.

- \* **ALL** children should be accompanied to school on a morning **by one adult per family.**
- \* **Only Year 6 pupils can walk home alone**, if parents have sent in a letter giving their permission.
- \* If you have more than one child to drop off at differing times, if it is easier, please bring both children for 9am and drop them off at their respective classrooms on the one way system. These children should both be collected at 3.15pm.
- \* Please try and stick to your children's start and finish times.

**Thank you to all parents and pupils for adhering to our uniform and jewellery policies in school.**

**For Health and Safety reasons pupils should not wear earrings or any other jewellery for school.**

- Please note, clear hole holders are allowed in school instead of earrings.
- A basic, time telling watch is permitted. Vtech & smart watches are not permitted in school.
- Nail varnish is not allowed in school.
- School shoes should be black. Trainers are not allowed to be worn in school.
- Please also ensure all items of your child's uniform are clearly marked with their names to avoid items getting lost or taken by accident. Thank you
- If children are saying they are cold due to the additional ventilation we now need in school, they can wear an additional warm top underneath their school uniform jumper or cardigan.

**If Parents/adults need to visit the school office, please ensure you are wearing a face mask. Thank You.**

### **School Dinners**

Yesterday we trialled the children choosing their preferred meal for lunchtime.

The children will get a choice of two meals on a daily basis.

Teachers will tell them the food choices available during registration and ask them for their choice using the 'hands up' system.

This hopefully ensures every child in Reception to Year 6 gets to eat their preferred meal. If the trial continues to be a success, we hope to roll it out on a more permanent basis.

### **Packed Lunches**

Please send your child's packed lunch into school in either a solid plastic lunch box or a packed lunch bag which can be wiped after lunch. Please do not send your child's packed lunch into school in a shop carrier bag. Thank you.

**P. E.** On the days your child has PE this term, can you please send your child into school wearing their PE kit on those days. Pupils can wear their PE t-shirt under their uniform sweatshirts or cardigans and can wear black jogging bottoms or black leggings instead of shorts and wear their plimsoles.

Nursery — Tuesday AM & Thursday PM

Reception—Monday & Tuesday

Year 1—Tuesday & Friday

Year 2—Wednesday & Thursday

Year 3—Tuesday & Thursday

Year 4—Monday & Wednesday

Year 5—Wednesday & Friday

Year 6— Wednesday

### **Breakfast Club will resume from**

#### **Monday 7th September.**

The club will be split into two groups, KS2 who will enter school through the Year 5 door and the club will be in the main hall and Reception & KS1 who will enter through the dining room door as usual.

There is no charge for the club as it is now sponsored by Greggs. The food that will be available will be cereal & milk and toast & butter.

Both our autumnal 2020 residential trips (France & Ullswater) have been postponed until 2021. Letters to have been sent home today to parents with more information.

### **Dinner Money / Free School Meals**

School meals are £2.10 daily / £10.50 per week (for children in years 3-6). **Dinner money can be paid on the ParentPay system or via Paypoint at a local shop.** Paypoint cards can be purchased at a cost of £1.80 or codes are available from the school office. Accounts should be kept in credit for the week ahead, the office will prompt you if your child's account is low and we would appreciate prompt payment. **Two weeks notice** is also required when changing from school meals to packed lunches and visa versa.

**Due to a Government initiative all Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils will be receiving a free hot meal.** As a school we still need to know if your family would be entitled to claim free school meals if this initiative wasn't in place. Please can parents produce supporting evidence by **Friday 18th September** if you have not already done so. If you do not have any evidence, please call into the school office to speak to staff.

### **PARENT SUPPORT ADVISER NEW WAY OF WORKING.**

Good morning everyone I hope you are all well. It is so lovely to welcome a lot of our pupils back to school and to witness their excitement at being back with friends and teachers.

I am back in school this week for the first time since March, and have felt a little bit apprehensive myself about returning but already feel safe, settled, happy and as if I have never been away. I am very hopeful that your children will feel the same way but, if not, please don't worry as we will support them as much as we possibly can to get them back into their usual school routines.

Due to the current restrictions I thought it would be good to let you know how I am going to be working for a while. Sadly, I am unable to welcome parents into school or visit you in the home at the moment, but am able to offer parents/carers appointments via telephone or possibly using the Zoom Virtual meeting system, so I can continue to offer support and advice as before. I may visit your home, if required, but will not be able to enter the property as per government guidelines.

I will continue to support children in school, if required, following school procedures regarding social distancing. I understand that these are very strange times so please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions, queries, worries or concerns that you might have for yourself or your family.

My working hours are Monday Tuesday and Wednesday.

My Mobile number is: 07930 806095. My E mail is: l.doherty300@durham learning.net

Best Regards Lynn Doherty, Parent Support Advisor