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Driffield Northfield Infant School Southfield Close DRIFFIELD East Yorkshire YO25 5YN

'All Moving Forward Together'

12th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw near to the end of the first half term of this academic year I wanted to write to you with a few updates about our communication with you and let you know about some of the events that will be happening over the next few weeks. Before this though, I would like to thank you all so very much for all your support during these first few weeks. It has certainly been a learning curve for us all, with many new routines and new ways of doing things. I am pleased to say it has been a hugely successful return to school and seeing the children having fun with their friends and the staff is just a joy to see. We are immensely proud of each and every one of the children, who have all embraced the change; a real credit to you all.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Unfortunately due to restrictions we will not be able to run our usual face to face parent/carer consultation evenings this term. However we know how important it is for you to have an opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher and find out how they are progressing, so will this year be offering telephone meetings during the week commencing 19th October. You will shortly be sent a link via text asking you to complete a short form to request the most convenient time for your child's class teacher to give you call. During these calls the teachers will give you a brief overview of how your child has settled into their new class, the progress they are making and answer any questions you may have regarding homework, school routines and how you can help at home.

Email Communication

In an effort to develop the way we communicate with you, we will now be using an email system along with texts and the school app (School Jotter – available in the App Store or Google Play). If you did not receive this letter via email please contact the school office as they may not have an email address for you.

Google Classroom

With the aim of further developing our home learning opportunities we have recently developed our use of Google Classroom. This will be used to post lessons and learning activities in the event of your child needing to self-isolate for a period of time due to the coronavirus. This could be for individuals who have been in close contact with a person testing positive or in the event of a 'bubble' needing to close due to a positive case in school. We will also use this platform to post additional homework and/or family learning activities throughout the year.

Each child will be provided with individual log in details and will be invited to specific Google Classrooms; this may be a year group classroom or related to a specific topic. Activities and lessons will be published along with instructions and the ability to submit completed work and/or photographs. A parent's guide to accessing your child's account has been posted on our school website - https://www.driffieldnorthfieldinfants.co.uk/learning-from-home

Harvest Festival

Again due to restrictions we are unable to hold our usual Harvest Festival performances this year. Instead, during the week commencing 19th October, the children will take part in lots of harvest based activities in the classroom and photographs will be posted on the class pages on our school website (www.driffieldnorthfieldinfants.co.uk). We will also be publishing a Harvest Festival section on your child's Google Classroom account which will provide lots of activities they can do over the October Half Term holidays. We hope you will all have lots of family fun and we look forward to seeing any photographs and videos that you submit.

Driffield Food Bank Donations

As part of our Harvest Festival celebrations on Wednesday 21st October we will be collecting donations for the local Driffield Food Bank. To do this in the safest way possible, please place your gifts of food in the boxes on the playground in the morning and staff will then deliver these to the food bank in the afternoon. Thank you in advance for your donations which are needed more than ever in the town at this time.

Social Distancing and Staggered Start and Finish Times

We have been really pleased to see that the measures in place to support social distancing on the school grounds at the beginning and end of the day are working well. As the government continue to monitor the virus and restrictions in place, it is clear to see that this is going to be a longer term system that we will all need to continue to follow. Therefore please continue to help us by using allocated gates, at specific times and waiting in the dedicated areas to keep everyone in our community safe.

Once again thank you all for your support and if at any time you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sam Woolhouse Headteacher

