



# DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: <https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk/>

Headteacher: Mr R. Leigh Chair of Governors: Mrs S Varnom

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Headteacher's Thoughts

As a school, we are settling in to this new normal and I thank everyone for their patience as we are trying new ways of working to keep us all safe. I am really enjoying getting to know the children during the breaks each day and on Tuesday afternoon had a great session in with Year 2. We are planning next week to recognise the children's successes in class, as it is not possible to have the usual Friday assembly, I will be visiting each class to present the class certificate instead. Look out for the list of names in the newsletter from next week.

As you will see, I have started to include some diary dates in the box below. Just to remind you of the INSET day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October (this was included on the original term days for the year). The other date is for the Year 6, letters were sent out this week about Bikeability for children that have achieved their Level 1 last year – please can I remind those to return their forms by next Tuesday and complete the consent on Parentpay.

## Health Reminder.

As usual for this time of year we are experiencing a lot of illnesses in our children. Due to Covid-19 however we have to be extra vigilant. **If you have had to administer paracetamol then they cannot come to school as this may hide a temperature.** If your child develops a persistent cough, high temperature or a change in their sense of taste or smell then please arrange for them to be tested. The whole family should then isolate until you have the results. Once you have received a negative result your child can return to school. **Please inform the school office immediately should you receive a positive result. If this is at the weekend, then please use the office email address with the heading 'Positive Result'.** Thank you

Fingers crossed the weather holds for us to enjoy the weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Mr. Leigh

**Our Christian Value for  
this half term is:**

**Love**

"Love is patient, love is kind.  
It does not envy, it does not  
boast, it is not proud. It does  
not dishonour others, it is  
not self-seeking, it is not  
easily angered, it keeps no  
record of wrongs."  
1 Corinthians 13:4-5:

## Future Diary Dates.

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 6pm – Full Governors Meeting

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – INSET day – school closed**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Bikeability Year 6

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term  
Holiday**

## **Online Safety**

There is an extremely triggering and highly graphic video that trended on TikTok of a man live-streaming his suicide. Whilst TikTok have stated that they are doing their best to remove the video, it has been shared across all social media platforms hundreds of thousands of times including under fake captions. Some captions on TikTok are as trivial as 'look at the pasta I cooked tonight' before the video then plays; therefore, children can come across the video without even searching for it. We have been advised that this video is extremely distressing and urge children, parents and carers to avoid the app whilst this video is in such high circulation. When a country the size of India bans an app, alarms bells should ring!

TikTok is a Chinese video and music-based social media app that allows users to create and share short videos with special effects. It is dominated by jokes, short clips and videos and enjoys huge popularity amongst the young. Officially, the TikTok app requires that users be at least 13 years old to access it. But a [BBC Trending](#) investigation came across several accounts run by children under 13 - with some as young as nine years old. It is an app, however, which has dominated the media for a number of reasons not least due to the high number of children who are being groomed via the app, and some of the very disturbing material that has been posted on the app for all to see.

As a school, we would strongly advise that you remove the app from your own and your children's devices to protect them and you from unwanted images, sexually explicit lyrics and shocking violence. Alternatively ensure that your privacy settings are up to date.

## **Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium?**

### **What is Pupil Premium?**

Pupils qualify as being eligible for Pupil Premium if they satisfy at least one of the following:

- They have received Free School Meals at any point in the last 6 years  
*NB: this is not the same as universal free school meals which is an automatic entitlement for children in Foundation & KS1*
- They are in the care of the Local Authority
- They are children of Service Personnel
- They have been adopted from care (and the school has seen certification of this)

This means that the school receives additional funding for your child.

### **Free School Meals Eligibility**

#### **Infant free school meals in England**

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in:

- reception class
- year 1
- year 2

### **Children in other year groups**

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

**Tell the school office if you also get any of the above benefits. Your child's school can get extra funding if you do.**

Registering for free meals could raise an extra £1345 for your child's school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. More detailed information is available on our school website.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form. It is therefore important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2, so that your child's school receives as much funding as possible.

**To see if you are eligible for Free School Meals, speak to Teresa in the school office. She will need the following information:** Full names, dates of birth and national insurance numbers.

**If you believe that your child/children are eligible for Pupil Premium for any other reason then please get in touch with Miss Stephens, Deputy Head, via the school office.**