



**17.09.21**

Dear Parent / Carer

Firstly, a very warm welcome to our new reception children and parents. The children have completed their first full week in school this week and have settled really well. I am sure we will have some very tired children leaving school tonight!

I have been very impressed with the children’s attitude and behaviour across school upon return. The children have all adjusted really well to new school routines and I am delighted with the standard of work and attitude to learning when I visit classrooms. Well done children for making such an impressive start to the school year.

Hugo, our school dog, also returned to school last week for a couple of days. He is now 6 months old and will be undertaking his training over the coming months in order to become an accredited Therapy Dog. He will be in school on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. At the moment the most important part of his training is becoming used to the school environment and remaining calm and settled at all times. Thank you to everyone for remaining calm around him and not causing him to get excited. I am always really impressed by the children’s conduct and polite requests to stroke him when they are with him.

Please see below some dates for your diary:

|                                                                                                             |                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tempest will be in school to take individual and family photographs.<br/>More information to follow.</b> | <b>Tuesday 28th September</b>            |
| <b>School Book Fair</b>                                                                                     | <b>w/c 11th October</b>                  |
| <b>Half term</b>                                                                                            | <b>Monday 25th - Friday 29th October</b> |

**Harvest Festival**

We are hoping to be able to hold our annual harvest festival in church once again this year. This event will be for KS2 only and unfortunately due to COVID restrictions parents will not be able to attend. EYFS / KS1 will hold a Harvest celebration in school. Once again we will be supporting the People’s Kitchen in Newcastle. Further information to follow once this event is confirmed.

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## **Floppy Phonics**

Over the summer we have purchased a new phonics scheme called Floppy Phonics that works alongside our Oxford Reading Tree reading scheme. Further information will be sent out in the coming weeks on how this will work and how parents can use the materials and online subscription to support their child at home.

## **Basic Skills Quality Mark**

We are delighted to announce that we have successfully been reaccredited with the Basic Skills Quality Mark Award. Tribal's Quality Mark is an internationally acknowledged accreditation supporting and recognising improving standards in the provision, practice and performance of English and Mathematics, and providing evidence of high-quality education.

Following a rigorous process concluding in a half day assessment last week, we are delighted to be one of the first schools in Durham to achieve accreditation. Many thanks to our English lead, Miss Herbert and Maths lead, Mr Oliver Elliott for all their work in preparing for the assessment and for all the hard work from staff and pupils - keep up the great work!

## **After school clubs**

It has been lovely to see school getting back to 'normal' over the last few weeks although it has taken a little readjusting to as I think we had all forgotten what it was like pre-pandemic.

From Monday we will be reintroducing whole school assemblies for Years 1 - 6 with EYFS joining later in the year. After school clubs are also resuming. There is a limit to what staff and coaches are able to offer but we have tried our best to offer a range of activities across school. Clubs will run for a 5 week period and our offer will then be reviewed and reallocated. You should have received a message from the office today about the clubs your child is eligible to join. After school clubs are offered from y1 - y6 with EYFS joining the provision in the summer term. Clubs are allocated on a first come, first served basis and are charged at £12.50 per 5 week block. Pupils entitled to Pupil premium funding are not required to pay.

**Pupil premium Funding:** This is funding allocated to school for pupils who are either:

- eligible for a free school meal or have been at some point in the last 6 years. Your child may 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

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- 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)
- has previously been looked after by the local authority
- is currently in the care of the local authority.

Range of after school clubs:

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>   | Multi-skills - A&E coaching (Year 2)<br>Mindfulness - Mrs Appleby (KS2)                                                                                                     |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | Drama / singing - Miss Smith & Miss Fowler (KS2)<br>Art Club - Ms Kendall & Mrs Hill (KS1)<br>Board games - Mrs McCrea - KS2<br>Girls Football training - Miss Johnson (Y6) |
| <b>Thursday</b> | Multi-skills - NUFC (Y4-5)<br>Football - Y6<br>Book in a box - Mrs Laws - KS2                                                                                               |
| <b>Friday</b>   | Commando Joe - Jak & Mrs Jennings - Year 3                                                                                                                                  |

**Book in a box**

Create a scene from a favourite book in a shoe box. Children will need to bring in a shoe box.

**Mindfulness**

Relaxation activities

**PCR testing & self isolation rules**

Adults who are fully vaccinated or pupils under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by [NHS Test and Trace](#) as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.

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## Red Rose Primary School

The school is **no longer** expected to undertake contact tracing. Close contacts **will now be** identified via NHS Test and Trace.

Staff/ pupils who are experiencing [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#), should not attend the school and are advised to self-isolate and to arrange a [PCR test](#).

If the PCR test is:

- negative - staff/pupil can return to school.
- positive - the positive case will need to self isolate for 10 days.

Where a positive case is identified, NHS Test & Trace will contact those who test positive – or their parent or legal guardian – to identify close contacts. They will then be required to take a PCR test.

Parents/Carers of Primary aged pupils are to be reminded that Primary School age pupils should **not be** undertaking LF tests at home. Parents/Carers of Primary age pupils presenting with symptoms of COVID-19 are advised to take them for a PCR test.

**Wishing you all a lovely weekend**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Brinton".

**Mrs A Brinton**  
**Headteacher**

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