

St Margaret's CE Newsletter

November 2020

Welcome Back

I hope you and your family are keeping well during this difficult time. May I take this opportunity to thank you once again for your patience and cooperation in adapting to the changes we have put in place at school, particularly at the start and end of the school day. The children continue to show fantastic attitudes towards school and their learning and have made a great start to this half-term.

I am pleased to say that for children who have school lunches, hot meal options are now available each day. The kitchen and office staff have worked tirelessly to make this possible and the choices each day are excellent.

On Friday we will be supporting Children in Need; children are invited to wear 'spotty' dress/non-uniform for a £1 donation. There will be lots of activities planned throughout the day.



Poppies and poppy merchandise is still available, with prices ranging from 50p to £1.50 with erasers, pencil sharpeners, pencil and reflective poppies available. The Royal British Legion are asking the nation to 'Rethink Remembrance' by recognising the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces community, past and present. By wearing a poppy/buying poppy merchandise, you aren't just remembering the fallen but supporting a new generation of veterans and Service Personnel that need our support.

The school photographer will be in school on **Tuesday 17th November**. To allow this event to go ahead safely there are a number of additional measures in place including the photographer wearing full PPE and children standing rather than sitting for their photographs. Unfortunately, school will not be able to allow younger children (who do not currently come to St Margaret's in for a family photograph as we have in previous years.

COVID-19 Update

Last half-term we were made aware of one positive case among our school community and unfortunately had to ask some children to work from home for a period of time due to contact tracing. We continue to have stringent safety measures in place in school and children's contact with other children is limited to those in their 'Bubble'. The DfE permits adults to move between bubbles: at St Margaret's there are occasions when different adults teach classes, for example the specialist music teacher or PE coach. However, we have limited this and thorough records are kept when this is the case, as well as those adults maintaining the recommended social distancing.

In order to minimise the chances of a positive case, it is important that we are all aware of the symptoms of Covid-19 and only well children attend school.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss of change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms. Information about COVID-19 symptoms and management of the virus can be found here, www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/ If you or your child being to show symptoms you must follow the national guidance. For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. However, if you develop symptoms you must self-isolate at home arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 – visit NHS.UK to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Should your child be asked to stay at home for a period of time, remote learning will be provided by the class teacher. Please see the remote learning letter on our website for more details and get in touch if you have any queries. I will be sending out a survey regarding this to ascertain if there is anything additional we can support with when it comes to learning at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr D. R. Whittle (Headteacher)

