



INSPIRING SUCCESS BEYOND EXPECTATION

Head teacher: Mrs Jane Scardifield

Good afternoon everyone,

After a very wet week, how lovely to finish with some beautiful Friday sunshine! Week three at school has had its challenges, but your children are working very hard. Behaviour in school is better than ever and, although it's strange not seeing their friends from other year groups and classes, the children seem to be enjoying the extra space in the school playgrounds when their class has their lunch break or playtime. It's hard at the moment to show you all the great things that your children are learning as you don't get to set foot in the classroom! That's why we're trying to use Twitter more and more to post pictures of life and learning in school. If you're not already, please follow @NorthowramPS on your Twitter account!

Home Learning

You've all received some detailed information about our home learning offer this week. If you follow the instructions in the documents, you will be able to get ready to access online learning for your child as and when it is needed. I am sure that you are hearing local stories about bubbles and year groups needing to self-isolate following positive cases so it's really important that you get ahead with this so that hopefully, we can minimise any loss of learning should we need to close a bubble or year group.

Staff absence

We are seeing a higher than usual rate of staff absence currently, mainly linked to the need for staff to isolate for short periods due to members of their own households displaying potential Covid symptoms whilst awaiting tests. This has meant that we have needed to use teachers and teaching support assistants from Supply Agency. We have a long standing relationship with one Agency only who provide all our cover staff. This agency has our full covid-related risk assessment and any external staff are fully aware of our safety procedures before beginning work here. We've been really pleased with the quality of supply staff in school over the last two weeks and they have taken good care of classes until their teacher has returned. We have no positive cases amongst staff or pupils at our school at the time of writing.

Socialising outside school

Just a plea for help and support outside of school. Lots of children are telling us that they are doing a lot of socialising out of school in other family's households including sleepovers and parties. We're trying so hard to keep the children separate between year groups and classes in school. Ensuring that you follow the government's rules outside of school is vitally important too – limiting the amount of contact that children have with others, especially indoors, could really help limit the number of children who have to isolate in the event of a positive case. Remember that the government's rules around gatherings and households apply to children too.

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Class Newsletters

You'll be receiving a class newsletter today which goes through some key information linking to your child's class and year group including brief information about what is being studied, when PE kit is required and how reading and homework is organised – I hope you find your newsletter useful!

A cool, blustery but bright weekend ahead for us all – I hope you enjoy it and we look forward to seeing you all next week,

Sending my best wishes,

Jane Scardifield