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| **C:\Users\2000xx31\Desktop\Dinnington First School Logo.jpgParent’s Newsletter**  **Issue 1 14th September 2020** |
| Dear Parents/Carers,  The children have made a fantastic start to the new term – all the staff are very proud of them all! They have such a positive outlook at are thoroughly enjoying being back and learning together.  You have been receiving lots of parent mail as we receive updates and make changes due to Covid 19 regularly – thank you for your patience with this.  Thank you from all the staff and governors for supporting us in following all the guidance and keeping school a happy and safe place to be. We will be finding inventive ways to try and keep as many of our usual activities going as possible… a virtual Harvest Festival might be the way forward this year… watch this space.  Caroline Ash  Head Teacher |
| **WEBSITE** |
| Our website is currently being reconstructed and a new website will be ready for next half term.  Apologies in the meantime – we will keep as much information on there as we can and I will continue to update you via parent mail. |
| **CURRICULUM** |
| The half termly curriculum plan for your child will be issued next week so that you can see what your child will be learning. The curriculum has been slightly altered to allow for catch up.  If you have any questions about the curriculum please do not hesitate to ask.  **Reading**  Ensuring that the children learn to read and develop a love of reading is one of our main priorities.  Daily story time takes place in every class. We are also using stories to teach the children about our school values and what they mean – this would normally have been done during whole school assemblies.  Our values are taught through Dinnington R.O.C.K.S  The children learn the importance of being…. Reslient, Open to new experiences, Community minded, Kind and Successful  The children who missed the National phonics screening will take this next half term and we are currently ensuring they receive the support they need with this.  Children will be receiving their reading books – when they are brought back into school they will be stored for 72 hours before returning to the library, in line with Covid policy. |
| **HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME** |
| Pupils are expected to attend school each day unless ill.  Please note that the school keeps strictly to the National and Newcastle upon Tyne Policies regarding extended holidays. Leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and a request form from the school office must be completed. |
| **PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF DINNINGTON FIRST SCHOOL** |
| The Parents and Friends of Dinnington First School work together to support the school and raise funds to improve educational outcomes and enjoyment of school for all our children. Throughout the year they hold meetings and fundraising events. They are always keen for new people to join them and would offer you a warm welcome. If you are interested in supporting them please contact…… |
| **ADMISSIONS / REGISTERING A CHILD** |
| Applications for Reception and transfer to middle schools for September 2021 are available from 01 September 2020. Parents are encouraged to use all four preferences, apply online and apply on time. It is important to note that parents must apply through the local authority that they live in (pay council tax to). Applications sent to the wrong local authority are not considered to be valid applications.  Closing date: Transfers 12:00 noon 31st October 2020  Reception 12.00 noon 15th January 2021 |
| **VISITOR IN SCHOOL** |
| There have been a few requests from parents to enter the building for various reasons. We are unable to allow visitors on site at the moment other than for vital work.  Please contact school via the school office (telephone number and email below) and we will be happy to help you with any queries. |
| **RISK ASSESSMENT** |
| Prior to returning to school a full risk assessment was conducted and is regularly reviewed.  I have attached the risk assessment and it will be available to view shortly under the Covid 19 tab. |

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| **CONTACT US**  **Dinnington First School, Sycamore Road, Dinnington, NE13 7JY**  **Head teacher: Caroline Ash**  Email: admin@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk  Tel: 01661 822457  Website: <https://www.dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk/web> |
| This newsletter will also be available on the school website. |