



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been lovely to welcome the children back today and see them enjoying the autumn sunshine. We are promised that the MUGA will definitely be finished in the next couple of weeks but the running track has been put back until March due to material shortages.

The artificial grass has been stored on the grass near the entrance prior to being laid on Monday. It is fenced off but please keep children away from the area when entering and exiting school. Thank you.

We will have our Harvest Festival Assembly on Friday morning and film the children singing – if we do not have permission for your child to be on social media they will still be singing but will place them on the end of a row so they will not be in the shot. Please let us know if there are any changes to permissions to your social media preference prior to Friday.

As Covid cases are still on the rise, with regret, we have made the decision not to invite families to the Friday celebration assemblies this half term. However, we are still fully hopeful that Christmas performances can go ahead. You will be given the choice of 1 performance so that numbers are limited in the hall. We can't wait to see them singing and performing again!

Clubs all start back this week. We will inform you of changes for Spring clubs later this half term.

We're looking forward to welcoming you back to face to face **parent consultations** where you can chat to your child's class teacher about their progress and how they have settled in to their new classes.

The appointments will be made available Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm via parent mail.

Kind regards, Mrs Ash

## Late Drop Off or Pick Up

Understandably there may be the odd occasion where you are late to drop off or pick a child up. Please be aware that these do impact on staff time and regular morning lates will be picked up by the attendance officer due to missed time in education. If you are late for pick up your child will be brought to the school office as teachers have work and often meetings straight after school. If you are going to be late for pick up please inform us at your earliest convenience.

## Curriculum

The Autumn 2 Curriculum overviews will again be shared with you via SeeSaw this week and put on to the website. Just a reminder that this is a sample of the work the children will be learning. The knowledge organisers have the 'Key Knowledge' and vocabulary that the children will be taught and expected to use.

We revisit this learning over the year in order that it embeds into the children's long term memory. Encouraging your child to talk about their learning also really helps to ensure they fully understand it – if they can explain it well to you then they've got it!

## Remembrance Day

We will hold a special assembly in school next week for Remembrance Day when we talk to the children about the significance of this day and we hold a minute's silence.

There is merchandise in school to support the British Legion – no poppies this year but other related items (as in photo) these are for a donation of your choice. There is no obligation to buy but if you wish children can purchase them from the school office.





## Anti-Bullying Week 2021

15-19 Nov 2021

At Dinnington we explain to the children that 'Bullying' is when someone is unkind 'Several Times On Purpose' S.T.O.P and we teach them how to recognise and deal with any unkind behaviour. This is ongoing in school but we also like to highlight this during Anti-Bullying Week.

**Anti-Bullying Week** is coordinated In England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from 15 to 19 November 2021 and it has the theme One Kind Word.

The week will begin with **Odd Socks Day on 15<sup>th</sup> March** which is supported by CBBC and CBeebies star Andy Day and his band Andy and the Odd Socks.

Children and staff will all be encouraged to wear odd socks and we will be talking about celebrating our difference and following the theme of 'One Kind Word'

**Kindness** forms part of our school values and is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week taking place from 15 to 19 of November 2021.

Please follow the link below to find out more.

[One Kind Word Anti Bullying Week Video](#)

## **Social Media**

Thank you to so many of you who are now following us on Twitter. Just a reminder to not screenshot or share any images elsewhere. Thank you

Please find us on Twitter @DinningtonFirst

Your child's class also has its own twitter page;

@Dinnington\_C1 Nursery

@Dinnington\_C2 Class 2/3 Mrs Parker Mrs Tustin

@Dinnington\_C4 Mr Wright

@Dinnington\_C5 Miss Donnelly

@Dinnington\_C6 Mr Mann

@Dinnington\_C7 Mrs Creed/Mrs Penfold

@Dinnington\_C8 Mrs Yates

@Dinnington\_C9 Miss Walsh

@Dinnington\_C10 Mr Donnelly

**We also have a private Facebook Page – you will need to complete the admin questions to be allowed to join the group.**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dinnington-first-school/1855950107979418>

## **COVID-19 Update**

We are really grateful for your ongoing support. We know that we are all now suffering from information overload and the messages seem to get muddier every day. The biggest confusion seems to be around testing, symptoms and school attendance. As a summary, and based on your most frequently asked questions, here's what you need to know:

- Children with symptoms should not be in school, ring us if you are unsure
- Everyone with symptoms should have a PCR test – booked online
- A LFD test (home tests) are not suitable for people with symptoms – they do not reliably tell you that you don't have COVID
- Children are presenting with different symptoms to the three listed NHS symptoms, so caution around symptoms is advised
- We will let you know when we have had a confirmed case in school but we no longer inform you if we think your child has been a close contact
- If someone in your household has COVID, other people in the household can attend work and school – they will need a PCR test but don't have to self-isolate while waiting for the result
- We will change our practice and introduce new measures if we meet the thresholds set out in our contingency plan (available on the school website)

**I hope that is helpful – please ring us if you have a question and we will do our best to advise you.**