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Friday 14th May, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. It is hard to believe a week has passed since the last newsletter - it doesn't seem two minutes. This time of year is always an exceptionally busy time in schools; everyone is working hard to try to ensure our children are supported with their wellbeing, which forms part of our daily ethos and is built into our curriculum throughout weekly PSHE sessions and beyond, as well as focusing and supporting our children's learning in order to help them make good progress, ready for their transition into the next year group. As a leadership team, we are planning for this term, but are also starting to plan for September, so a busy and exciting few months lie ahead. As always, your supportive approach will be essential in ensuring the best for our children, school staff and families. We are very proud of these strong relationships and really feel these are key to helping ensure our children have the best chances of succeeding and REACHing their potential and, most importantly, feeling good about themselves. Many thanks for being on board and working with us, and making this last year+ the best it could be for our children.

Autism Awareness



This week, we held a whole school assembly on Autism Awareness. The aim was to promote an understanding into the many ways that autism can affect people and what we can do to help and support them. This was a time to come together to share understanding, knowledge and experiences of what autism is and how it affects people every day. It's a time when we can celebrate our differences, talents and skills.

Autism affects more than 1 in 100 people in the UK. It is a lifelong, developmental difficulty that can affect how a person communicates with others and how they relate to the world around them. It can be thought of as a hidden disability as we cannot see it, but it affects a person's everyday life. Autism is something called a spectrum condition, meaning that although people with an autistic spectrum condition share some of the same difficulties, everybody with the condition is different and will have a range of difficulties. Therefore, some people might need a little bit of help and support, but others might need more help, just like we *all* do at times. We recognise the importance of developing our children's awareness, understanding and appreciation of each other in all areas is the key to enabling our young people to grow up knowledgeable and compassionate members of society.

◆ Amazing Autism Fact 1

If Newton, Einstein, Mozart and Tesla were all alive today, they would be all diagnosed with autism.

◆ Amazing Autism Fact 2

During his childhood, it is said that Lionel Messi had social difficulties interacting with others and would rarely speak to his footballing team mates. He may not have been interested in being the centre of attention, but he had a real focus on football, developing an exceptional sporting talent. He is now thought to be one of the best footballers in the world!

◆ Amazing Autism Fact 3

Who has seen Ghostbusters? Well, did you know comedy actor Dan Aykroyd was expelled from two schools as a child and was later diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder in the 1980's? In an interview with a newspaper, he shared that one of his



symptoms of ASD was his fascination with ghosts and law enforcement. He goes on to credit this symptom of ASD as an inspiration for *Ghostbusters!*

COVID INFORMATION

You will be aware that there have been a few updates regarding government guidance as national restrictions lift. The main change was for High Schools and children no longer wearing masks in school. Leeds City Council have emailed today to say that since rates in Leeds are currently higher than the England average, Public Health in Leeds have advised today that pupils should wear masks in communal areas where social distancing cannot be maintained. Although this does not impact on us as a primary school, it does show that we need to continue to be cautious.

We are currently awaiting updated information from Leeds City Council Health and Safety Team, which we will use to inform us of any changes that need to be factored into our risk assessment over the coming weeks. Once we have this information, we will inform you of any changes which may be implemented.

At present, the current plans remain in place. We absolutely need your continued support in ensuring that everyone adheres to all of the current measures: 2m+ distancing; one way system; wearing a mask; only being on the school site in the given time slot... all of these will help to reduce the risk of transmission and having to close bubbles. Please help by doing the following:

- ◆ Wear a mask when entering the school site.
- ◆ Follow the one-way system (please do not send your children into school through the exit delivery gate).
- ◆ Please do not send your child to school if they, or a member of your household, has COVID symptoms.
- ◆ Inform us as soon as possible if you have a positive test result. admin@rothwell-pri.leeds.sch.uk
- ◆ Keep at least 1m+ distance from other families.
- ◆ Keep your children with you at the end of the school day, they should not be away on the field, mixing with children in other bubbles.

RE

During the past few weeks, we have been learning about Ramadan and Eid across school. As part of our learning, each class have created Eid cards to send to children in two schools in Leeds and Bradford, which has been a great opportunity for us to make links with children in the wider community.

History

This week, with the help of the Royal Armouries, UKS2 were transported back to 1940 during WWII. The children were put through their paces as part of the Home Guard and then skilled as an ARP (Air Raid Precaution) warden. The pupils demonstrated their bravery by taking cover during an air raid siren drill and learnt how to stand to attention to defeat the invading Germany army. Well done soldiers!



Parent/Carer Consultations

I was great to see and speak to so many of you during parent/carers consultations last week. As a whole school, it has been great to see 88% of parents so far, with slight variations in phases (see below). If you have not managed to re-arrange your parent consultation, please email the office to book one in. admin@rothwell-pri.leeds.sch.uk

	Percentage attended
Foundation Stage	88%
KS1	91%
LKS2	88%
UKS2	86%

The video call format was new to everyone and was used for the majority of appointments. We would really appreciate your feedback on how you found this approach. Please complete the Google form ([by clicking HERE](#)) by *Thursday 20th May 2021*, in order to help us plan for future parent consultations as we move forward.

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the following superstars who were awarded their certificate during today's celebration assembly

Early Years

Nursery: Harriet C and Georgia B

Reception Class: Alex and Emily

Key Stage 1

Class 1: Sophia H

Class 1/2: Theo C

Class 2: Iris B

Lower Key Stage 2

Class 3: Bella G

Class 3/4: Eva J

Class 4: Seb H

Upper Key Stage 2

Class 5: Maisie D

Class 5/6: Peyton M

Class 6: Luke A

Each week we continue to use our daily recognition board in class to celebrate positive learning behaviours, effort and quality outcomes. Success is also celebrated by the awarding our daily 'Star of the Day' certificates, positive praise, as well as sending a weekly 'Secret Postcard' which is delivered directly to the children through the post. We are so proud of our young people and the way they have shown such resilience in navigating this last 14 months - we know you will share this pride. Simply amazing!

Many thanks

Leila Rothenburg
Headteacher

