

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents

Covid-19 – Important Reminders

The NHS defines the main symptoms of coronavirus as:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a 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)
- a loss or 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

If you, your child, or anyone in your household has any of the above symptoms, you must stay at home and book a coronavirus test. Please do not unnecessarily put staff and other children at risk and please support the school in trying to keep the school community as safe as possible. It is vitally important that you inform us if your child has had a test for covid-19. Your child must not come to school while they wait for their test result.

Social distancing – we are working tirelessly in school to make sure that class bubbles don't mix. Please help to support the school by ensuring that you 2m social distance from other families on the playground and as you walk to and from school. Parents are welcome to wear face masks on the playground as they drop off and pick up their children.

Shepherd Primary School Blog

Don't forget to check our School Blog this week (www.shepherdprimaryschool.edublogs.org) where you'll find Blog entries from me, alongside class posts.



General Information...

Welcome Back Year 4 Romney

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Year 4 Romney back to school next Thursday.

Keeping Warm!

As you are aware, in order to minimise any spread of germs we are ensuring that classrooms are well ventilated, by propping open classroom doors and opening windows. This does mean that despite the heating being on, the school is cooler than usual and will continue to be so as we go through the autumn and winter.



So we have introduced a new item of school uniform, a royal blue zipped school fleece – the fleeces are embroidered with our general school logo (rather than house colour logos). The new school fleece is very reasonably priced at £11.30 and is available on the Gooddies website: www.gooddies.co.uk Orders placed by 15th October should be delivered by mid-November.

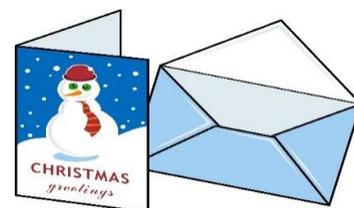
Today families of children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding will receive a link to an online survey to order a fleece free of charge. The survey must be completed by 9am on Monday 12th October.

Parent Governor

Thank you to Mrs Padmini Naicker for nominating herself to continue in the role of parent governor on our Governing Body. There were no other nominations for the role, so Mrs Naicker has been appointed. Congratulations Mrs Naicker!

Christmas Cards

We are once again participating in the Christmas Card fundraiser with IQ Cards. Today your child is bringing home their Christmas Card design. IQ Cards can print this design onto high quality Stationery including Greeting Cards, Postcards, Gift Wrap & Sticky Gift Labels as well as a range of fun gifts.



To order items with your child's design, please complete the order form on the reverse of your child's Christmas Card design and make payment via School Gateway. All order forms with payment must be returned by Friday 16th October.

School Dinners

Week commencing	Children in Reception and Years 1-3	Children in Years 4-6
5 th October	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners
12 th October	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners
19 th October	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners

Next week, children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 can only order cold meals.

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 can order hot or cold meals.

Please note that all wraps, baguettes and rolls are cold options.

The new menu is on School Grid and is also available on our school website.

Please make sure that you order from the right set of hot or cold choices – if by mistake you order a hot meal in a week that your child is having cold school lunches, then their order will be swapped to a cold lunch.

Free School Meals

Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).



To apply, please visit the Hertfordshire County Council Website:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. An application takes just a few minutes to complete.

School Shoes

Please make sure that your child has a spare pair of shoes in a plastic bag, in school - the shoes can be left in school, in the plastic bag, hanging on your child's peg. The spare pair of shoes are to wear on the field and can either be an old pair of trainers or a pair of wellington boots. If you don't have a spare pair of shoes for your child to wear outside, then please send them to school with a spare pair of indoor shoes to wear in school - plimsolls for example.



Safeguarding

If you are concerned about the wellbeing of a young person or child you are able to make an anonymous referral through Hertfordshire County Council, by calling **0300 123 4043** and selecting option 1.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher