

A Weekend Update from Holland Moor- Saturday October 3rd



Uniform and PE Kit

We reintroduce full school uniform from this Monday – Monday October 5th. Thank you for your understanding of this gradual reintroduction. I know there's been a delay with the delivery of some uniform and I realise that some children may still need to come to school in smart but casual clothing.

Please remember that children can still wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE or Games lessons. This is easier for us but it is still OK for the children to bring the kit in with them to change into if families think this is best.

It remains strongly recommended that we have plenty of air-flow through our classrooms so I like to see windows open EVEN when we have the heating on. I've told the children I'll be wearing one of my old string vests and that I have a large hoodie in my office in case I need it. All children are very welcome to bring something similar with them to wear – even to wear over the top of their uniform in the classroom. Strange times!

Swimming

Thanks for the 24 replies I got to my question about swimming lessons. It was a very mixed response with slightly more parents/carers suggesting a further delay in restarting sessions was probably a good idea. I'm going to visit the pool to investigate the issue further.

KS2A Class of the Week

Class 4C for keeping me thoroughly entertained on the playground. One pupil gives me an amazing fact every day – all about black holes this week and another pupil answers my Geography questions including naming every country that has a border with France!

KS2B Class of the Week

It's got to be Class 5/6M for responding so well to their splendid isolation and completing so much homework. They have kept Miss McFord very busy completing all the marking in Goggle Classrooms

Remote Learning

Well done Class 3-4T who completed their remote lesson incredibly well with Mrs Trussell teaching the class from the comfort of her own home. The class were very disappointed that Mrs Trussell refused to give them a guided tour of the Trussell property! Next week it's Mr Barrett and Miss Carradice.

Walk to school

We are all looking forward to the national WALK TO SCHOOL week starting on Monday and local residents are too. I've warned the children that I might be late to school next week as I'll be walking from Ormskirk. Remember to colour in the footprints and sign those forms.

Bubbles

Another great week with bubbles continuing to work well. Thanks to those parents and carers who have responded so quickly when we have felt a COVID test was necessary. It's excellent that we are all working together on this.

Toast

Lists are ready, payments have mostly been made and we will be toasting fewer slices.

Lost Property

A few items have been collected but there's many left – the cut-off point will be at half-term.

Free School Meals for ALL Reception Year, Year 1 and Year 2 children

I'm a little surprised that we have over 30 Reception/KS1 children turning down the opportunity of eating a free, delicious, nutritious midday meal. I know some young children can be fussy eaters but the figure for packed lunches has never been this high before.

Exercise

I'm delighted that our children are receiving two PE lessons each week and engaging in so many fast moving, athletic activities during both playtimes. Do not be alarmed if they tell you they've been playing British Bulldog. The version they play is a light touch type and not the all pile in variety I used to play when I was younger.

Parking on Mercury Way

Councillor Ron Cooper sent me some interesting photographs of cars parked on Mercury Way between 2.30pm and 3.15pm. The photos included parking on a blind bend and parking on the pavement. I assured Mr Taylor that the cars could not have belonged to anyone associated with Holland Moor. He suggested that parking near the roundabout at the start of Mercury Way would be a much safer option. I'm sure we all agree.

Club of the Week

The club of the week is the KS2 football club. The footballers played on in a deluge. They played through a torrential downpour and enjoyed every minute of it. I like children with determination Well done to Mr Edwards and Mr Gibbings who stayed out too.

Staffing

Miss Ainscough who left us in July to start her own nursery is returning to Holland Moor for two days each week to develop our catch-up programme in KS2. It's our gain that she's still awaiting premises approval from Ofsted. Our catch-up team of Miss Ainscough, Mrs V Taylor and Mrs Ratcliffe is very strong indeed. Miss S McLoughlin (who has taught in Y5 before) joins us on Monday to teach Class 4J for two days each week. The class already know Miss McLoughlin well as she came into Holland Moor to meet them and work with them on Thursday and Friday.

Clubs

I'm delighted with how well these are going. We have more attendees at Netball that I've seen for many years. It's just as well really as we have our first Netball match on Tuesday. Good luck to both the teams playing.

I wish everyone a great rest of the weekend. MIKE BEALE – 03/10/2020