



# The Thursday Green Un

Volume 13 Issue 1 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

## Welcome Back

It is with great pleasure that we welcome everyone back to WCM for the start of a new school year. Well, who would have thought back in March what the last term of the 2019/20 year would have in store for us?

We would also like to welcome any new families to the school, if there is anything you need to know, just ask, staff will always be happy to help.

It has been so lovely in school over the last few days. Having all the children back and listening to the times and experiences they have shared with families has been a delight.

We want to make WCM the best place possible for your children to attend but we can only do that with your help and support. We recognise that not being able to come into school with your child is one of the most difficult things that we have to put in place. It is hard but following the guidelines to keep everyone safe if something we know you will support us with.

Keeping communication open between home and school will be essential if we are going to support your child's learning. If you can't catch the class teacher at the start or end of the day there are several ways you can get in touch:

- Ring and leave a message
- Call to the office and leave a message
- Email [office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk)
- Send a message on Messenger
- Catch Mr Read, Mrs Bradley or someone from the office outside in the morning.

We recognise that for many families this is a difficult time and we want to do all we can to keep everyone safe and rebuild and repair the damage done when COVID came to town!

## Learning from Home

We would like to say an enormous thank you for all your support to continue your child's learning from home during lockdown. The engagement we had was great and I know it was a challenge for everyone in one way or another.

## COVID19

As you know from previous information, we are following all the guidance that has been published for schools to follow. The main way to keep the virus at bay is still good hygiene. Everywhere around school we are promoting this. We have hand sanitising units in every classroom and in key places around school. In class the focus is on hand washing and use of tissues or coughing into your arm. If you would like more detail about things we are doing please don't hesitate to get in touch and ask. Also, if you spot anything you think is not right please let us know.

The social bubbles also remain important but these are now as year groups and throughout the day children will only come into contact with other children from their year group.

## Staff Changes

We would like to welcome Kieran Baines to Y4, Giorgina Parker Y1, Amber Knight Y1, Amy Mackay F2, Lauren Pigott F2, Hayley Drew F1. Please give them the usual WCM welcome, let's make them part of our family!

Also welcome back to Gemma Eden who returned from maternity leave just before the summer holidays, it is good to have Gemma back with us teaching in Y4.

## Baby News

Natasha Haque gave birth on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August. Ramy Atticus Wood Haque, appeared into the world at 10.55pm, weighing in at 6lb2oz! Mum and baby are doing well and they are enjoying family time together. We send all our best wishes and lots of virtual cuddles.



## Information from WCM!

This year we will be continuing to use the text system to keep you up to date with things that are happening at school.

If you have changed your number, please let the office to update your contact information.

Key information will also be included in the Green Un so keep reading every week to be 'in the know'!

## **Recycling Uniform**

If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of, we would really appreciate you donating it to school. We will look at ways to organise selling the uniform once this becomes possible and proceeds will go to school funds.

## **Newsletters**

Please look at your child's newsletter that should have come home with tonight's Green Un. It tells you about all the topics that your child will be learning over the next half term and gives you ideas about ways to support their learning at home, which you will all be experts at now!

## **Learning Journals Y3-6**

Your child will have brought home their new learning journal this week. Your child will need to have their journal in school every day as they will be used to support their learning in the classroom as well as at home.

## **Uniform**

We would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who has sent their children in full uniform. Seeing all the children in their classrooms so well presented is lovely. Please remember that indoor shoes are also part of our uniform when children are in class. Don't forget to clearly mark all items with your child's name so we can return lost items to their owners! If you need any spare uniform please email [office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:office@watercliffe.sheffield.sch.uk) or call in to the office, we keep some uniform in stock and orders are generally turned around quickly.

## **Jewellery**

Our jewellery policy allows children to wear one pair of stud earrings. These need to be taken out independently by your child for PE lessons and will be kept in a tin in the classroom during PE. Unfortunately, staff in school can't help to remove earrings. If your child chooses to wear them then they must take responsibility for them.

## **False / Acrylic Nails**

There were a number a cases in school last year of children wearing false or acrylic nails. Can we please remind you that this is not part of our uniform policy and they are not allowed to be worn by children. If you have any questions please ask!

## **Dinner Money**

Just a reminder that dinner money is £2.00 a day, £10.00 a week for a hot dinner or a 'pick 'n' mix. Like everywhere we are trying to move away as much as possible from handling money, call Liz in the office for information on how to pay online. If you think your child is

entitled to free school meals, please see Sue Bibby and she will help you to apply.

## **Applying for a Secondary School Place**

If you have not already done so, then this half term is the time to apply for a place for your child at secondary school for September 2021. You can do this online at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/pupiladmissions](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/pupiladmissions) or by filling in a paper form (you can request one of these by phoning Secondary Admissions on **0114 2735790**). For either application you will need your child's unique reference number, which is on the letter you should have received from Sheffield City Council back in July. For an online application, you will also need a current email address. Applications close at the end of October. You will be informed of your child's allocated place at the beginning of **March 2021**. If you have any questions about this or would like help with making an application then speak to one of the Y6 team.

## **Reception Children**

We would like to say a big well done to all the children who have started full time school for the first time this week. The children have been fantastic! They are so sensible and are following the Golden Rules already! We welcome the last 20 children in to school tomorrow.

## **Residentials**

At the moment we are unsure about what residentials will be happening this academic year. We do know that the Y2 one to Whirlow can't happen which is very sad for all involved. If and when the guidance changes we will inform you all straight away and let you know the plans for the children in Y3-6.

You can still spread the cost of residentials across the year by setting up a direct debit, please call and see Liz Graham for more information about this. If the residential does not happen you can draw the money out or bank it for uniform or dinners. Please note we will not be allowing any children to sign up for residentials if there is a debt owed to school.

## **Training Days**

This is just a reminder of our planned training days for this year. School will be closed to children for staff training on the following Wednesdays:

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021**