



Newsletter – Autumn (1) 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to you all at the start of this new school year.

Our first full week back has been a positive experience for the children and staff alike. It is wonderful to see so many smiling faces and lots of hard work going on around the school. The teachers have all commented on the children's positive attitudes and we all believe that is to your credit. Whilst enduring lockdown, it is evident that you gave your children stability and have prepared them for a successful return to school. Thank you.

I would also like to thank the entire school staff for their hard work and dedication in preparing the school site and planning safe learning opportunities for the children, during the summer break. Their preparedness has meant the children's start has been smooth and happy.

I am also grateful for your adaptability to our staggered start and finish time. This is working well for the children. It is good to see parents dispersing quickly from the green to ensure we keep our school and village community safe.

Below are several vital messages that will enhance the smooth running of the school. I appreciate that there is a lot of information to digest and I thank you in advance for your cooperation at this challenging time.

Kind regards, *Sue Dury* Headteacher

Reading Books

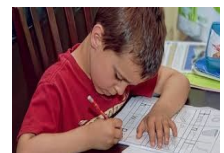


Mrs Banbury would like to thank all those families who have returned any stray school reading books and library books this week. This has meant that we can start to send home 'clean' reading books with the children from Monday. Some Key Stage 2 children have asked if they can bring in suitable reading books from home, as they have traditionally been allowed to do. The teachers have agreed that it is best if we just circulate and then quarantine for 72 hours our school reading books for now. Those home reading books can still be read at

home though. To enable your child to make the best progress possible, please encourage your child to read routinely with you or to themselves; and to minimise any risk always keep their book in their book bag when not being enjoyed. Finally, all books must come into school every day.

Homework

Whilst teachers build up the children's stamina to a full working week and we all learn to settle into new working patterns, teachers have agreed to suspend homework (except reading) until October half term, with the exception of Year 6.





Ickleford Primary School is a nut free site.

Please note:

we do have children with severe nut allergies.

Please ensure that all packed lunches are free from any products containing nuts. Please pay particular attention to the nut content in cereal bars.

Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children may bring fresh fruit or vegetable snacks for break time. Children will not be permitted to eat other products including Fruit Winders, chocolate coated fruit or cereal bars.

Ickle Drama have asked school if it is permissible for children, who attend their club, to keep a snack in their school bag. This will then be eaten at their drama session. This is absolutely fine. Teachers have been informed of this request.

School Uniform Policy

Can I please remind parents that dyed hair is not permitted under our school uniform policy. Despite parents using semi-permanent dyes on their children during the lockdown, there are still a few children with inappropriate hair colour. Please ensure it is washed out as soon as possible.

Our children look very smart in their new PE kit. Can we remind all parents that we requested round neck **black** sweatshirts and **no hoodies**. This is to ensure your child's safety during highly active PE lessons.



We continue to see rucksacks that are too large and inappropriate for the limited space we have in our cloakrooms. Please ask your child if they have been spoken to and advised to find something smaller. We want to eradicate this matter before children start to bring in big winter coats. However, it is good to see children bringing appropriate water bottles into school. Thank you.

COVID-19 Advice and Guidance Update

School requests that parents inform the office if children are being tested after displaying one or more of the 3 listed symptoms. After receiving the result, parents must then forward or send an attachment of the result, via email. We are required by government and public health to gather this evidence.



Office staff have also requested that you do not place the decision of whether your child should attend school if they are unwell, on them. They will direct you to 119 or your local GP surgery for medical advice. If your child has one or more of the 3 listed symptoms they should NOT attend school. If your child is generally unwell, we believe the best place for your child is at home recuperating. Always inform us if your child is not attending school via parent mail.

Home Learning Requests



Staff will not provide home learning whilst children are at home awaiting Covid-19 test results. Home learning **will only be provided** if a class has to quarantine due to a positive test result within that class bubble. Please do not request home learning via email. If you wish to provide learning for your child the government have set up The Oak National academy—a series of online, video age-appropriate lessons, which are updated regularly.

Messages from the Office staff:

Extra Curricular Activities

Firstly, thank you for the prompt uptake for clubs. If you were able to pay your chosen club on parentmail this assures you a place. All clubs start next week. For after school clubs - **CARS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON SITE**. Parents must wait for their children on the village green, in line with the end of the school day. Teachers will escort the children down to the front gate for collection. Any Year 6 children attending clubs must be collected. Nights are drawing in and for safeguarding concerns children must not walk home in the dark.

For those attending early morning dance and tennis clubs. Again, **CARS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON SITE**. The gates are open for staff access only. Please do not think that if the gate is open you drive onto site. Parents must wait with their children on the village green. Mr Wylie will collect the children from the front gate, in line with morning routine. Therefore, it is vital that children are punctual for these clubs. The gate will be locked and late entries will not be permitted.

Forgotten Items

Finally, the office staff would like to apologise that they cannot accept forgotten items being brought in late to school. They receive numerous phone calls through the day and they cannot spare the time from their essential responsibilities nor risk the chance of cross contamination into a class bubble.