



NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This has been both a challenging and, at times, difficult half term for all of us. However, the children deserve praise again for both their resilience to an ever-changing situation and also the attitude they have shown to their learning. Half term gives the children, and indeed all of us, a break before once again taking on the challenges that lie ahead. Whatever the coming weeks bring the children will, I am sure, continue to show both their capabilities and an eagerness for learning new skills. Everyone in school has been impressed.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break despite everything that is going on.

As we always say, there will always be issues that arise in school but please speak to either the staff, Mrs Lowe or myself if you have any queries or concerns, however minor. As we say on every newsletter, please do not wait to contact us because the sooner we know about any issue the quicker we can resolve it.

PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

Thank you for your patience and understanding with this process, especially the issues with some virtual meetings. We can only apologise for the gremlins.

Hopefully, when we do these again we will be able to meet in person and share the pupils' work with you.

PATHWAY

Our hope to have something in place over a weekend clearly did not work and was hampered by the weather. Over half term, we are hoping to finish the work and also to make the surface more manageable for all users, especially pushchairs. We are also trying to minimise use of the grass areas as the ground becomes more unusable – please see below.

Thank you for again your patience.

PICKING UP ARRANGEMENTS – Please note EYFS

We have been trialling using the Early Years playground to dismiss our Reception children at the end of the day. The Reception staff have been working to put a system in place that enables you all to socially distance from each other whilst waiting and also managing the pinch point which is the small gate into this area. This is to avoid parents and carers using the grass to wait. Clearly, we only have one point of entry, which creates an issue and is unavoidable. The staff feel that this can be managed but ask you to please co-operate with other users at the gated point. Thank you.

Miss Siner's class and Year 4

After half term, these pupils will be dismissed from the main KS1 entrance onto the playground, from the bottom of the ramp. Clearly, this is where KS1 exit the building too but we are confident that the area will be cleared before the above two classes come out at 3:20pm. The two classes will be able to walk through the main door without coming into contact with any of the surfaces. Please stand back from the KS1 collection points if you arrive early. We hope this will stop parents having to wait on the grass area.

We are aware that we are constantly changing arrangements to keep people safe. Once again we appreciate your patience and hope that parents feel that the arrangements have improved.

BREAKFAST & TEA TIME CLUB

As many of you will know, the facility that has provided before and after school care on our site is closing this Friday.

Whilst the Club has been run independent of the school, we are very sad to see it close. Everyone at Richard Wakefield C.E. Primary thanks the staff and committee members for their support over the years and wishes them well for the future.

We appreciate that the decision impacts on several of our parents. As stated previously, we are looking at the options available to us and as soon as we have any update we will let you know. Part of this process is to work with The de Ferrers Trust on what provision we should put in place, should the opportunity arise. As this is for parents and carers who would use a before and after school service, it is key that your views are heard. If you would like to be part of this process, please let the office know and we will include you in any consultation in the coming weeks.

LETTINGS AT SCHOOL

In a continued effort to service our local community and further develop relationships, the de Ferrers Trust has appointed a Trust Lettings Manager. Jamie Hawkins will manage all aspects of Lettings provision across Trust venues, which includes our school.

An online booking system has been launched which shows live availability and offers customers the ability to make booking requests via the website.

Please visit:

<https://richardwakefield.schoolhire.co.uk/>

Furthermore, to enhance our visibility in the local area, we also have a Lettings page on Facebook. Please search for Richard Wakefield Lettings and like, share and follow our page.

INSET DAYS

Due to the current situation, these were moved from November to **Monday January 4th and Tuesday January 5th 2021** at the start of next term. Due to an admin error these were reversed back on the website for a period of time. The dates highlighted in bold above are the correct dates.

School reopens after half term on **Monday 2nd November**.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 13 th November	NHS Nasal Flu Vaccinations for all children, Reception to Year 6. We will shortly receive Consent Forms from the Flu Vaccination Team and these will be distributed to parents/carers at that time.
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HALF TERM

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

School reopens on Monday November 2nd