

HeadTeacher report – Parent Council mtg : Tues 27th Oct 2020

Our first term back has gone well despite the current circumstances. I am indebted to the staff, parents, carers and our pupils for their resilience, support and understanding and, when often needed, sense of humour. We are continuing to get through this together.

COVID – 19 update

Our first positive case happened last week. All the procedures were duly followed. The decision was made to ask a primary one class and staff involved with that class to isolate for a period of ten days (four days had already occurred). This means that those involved will be able to enjoy most of their October break as the isolation period ends on Monday 19th October. In line with guidance only the children, and not their families, had to isolate. It is hoped that this helped some families with managing the situation. The P1 class moved to using Teams as a platform for learning with several children joining the DHT for a daily book and a biscuit and the opportunity to share their learning. Feedback from parents and carers has been positive. Moving forward it is likely that any further positive cases will result in a class and staff involved isolating. To allow a school day to be as normal as possible the children, within their own classes, are not expected to distance from each other.

Our children continue to learn in class bubbles indoors and in year group bubbles in the playground. Each year group has a zone of the playground that they are asked to remain inside. Staff are allocated, as far as is possible, to a class or year group bubble. Adults are very careful to maintain a 2m distance from each other and hand washing remains an integral part of the school day. Learning outdoors continues to be a focus and this will remain in place – children and adults are asked to dress accordingly.

Budget

We continue to work within our budget and have allocated £7000 to the purchase of further ipads. This will assist the delivery of our digital learning strategy in school and will also help us to support families if another lockdown situation occurs. A budget code, purely for the use of COVID related resources etc is used as required. This is currently paid centrally.

PEF

Our main use of PEF continues to be our Pupil Support Officer and teacher supporting nurture approaches. Our Family Support Worker is providing invaluable support to families at the current time.

Staffing

We say goodbye to Felicity Martin who has been with us as an interim DHT since March. Felicity is taking up a post as DHT at Ferryhill. We wish her all the very best.

Cheryl Berthinussen goes on maternity leave from mid November. Acting DHT interviews have taken place and we will be sharing news of her replacement as soon as possible.

Claire Campbell will also be going on maternity leave from the beginning of December.

I am delighted that for the foreseeable future Kirsty Martin will be remaining with us as DHT. You may remember that Kirsty was appointed Acting HT at Currie and was due to leave us at Easter. Due to COVID, the Acting HT post is currently on hold – definitely to our advantage.

Learning at Trinity

In amongst all of the procedures, policies, guidance etc learning is still core. Our focus is on health and wellbeing along with literacy and numeracy. Our first term has stayed as close to normal as is possible – staff have planned for and taught MADD about heroes, shared learning, held a Meet the Teacher event (albeit virtually) and had a Rainbow party. With so much being cancelled and unable to happen out of school for our children we feel it is so important that school continues to be a fun, safe and happy place to be. Halloween and Christmas will still be happening!

Thank you again for all that you do

Jacqueline Scott

HeadTeacher