



The Spire Federation Newsletter East Wold and North Cockerington C E Primary schools

Autumn 1 - Week 4 25th September 2020



Headteacher Weekly Update

As the government increases the restrictions, local lockdowns cover significant areas of the country, and with the potential of more restrictions in the future, we continue to develop our COVID-19 procedures. We have seen many schools nationally report COVID-19 positive cases, and as the virus infection rates increase, it is likely that we may get cases in our area/schools.

We have comprehensive risk assessments in place and we are following the government guidance. We cannot however, guarantee that we will not get positive cases at our schools, so we need to be prepared.

If we do get informed of a positive case at our schools, we will need to act very quickly. If we need to close classes/bubbles, there will be little notice. Please think about your arrangements to collect your child(ren) in case this does occur. As the Prime Minister said, the restrictions may continue for the next six months, so partial closures are a possibility in the months ahead.

It is therefore essential that you keep us informed of your up-to-date contact details. This will be key in the event of a positive case, or indeed if your child(ren) develop symptoms of coronavirus at school.

Decisions to close bubbles will be made in consultation with Public Health. We will inform you by email, Facebook, our website and, during the school day, via telephone. Obviously, with the possibility of having to contact many families, email, Facebook and our website, will be the quickest method of communication.

We have developed systems to ensure we can continue education in the event of a partial closure and we will continue to provide further information on these in the weeks ahead. We would encourage you to look at Google Classrooms (see log on details in the newsletter) with your child. We will be looking at this in school too, so that the children can practise accessing the platform. When we are familiar with Google Classroom, children will start to access Purple Mash (our computing platform that can be used for other subjects too). For pupils in Reception, Tapestry will be our main home learning tool.

The government has stated that they anticipate that education and childcare provision will usually remain fully open to all. However, we must prepare for the possibility of bubble closure, or further government restrictions. In the government's guidance concerning local lockdowns, it is worth noting that primary schools are covered in 'tier 4', the last tier of restrictions to be imposed on an area, and in this case it is still planned that primary schools would remain open to priority groups. In this case, remote education should be provided for all other pupils.

In these uncertain and difficult times, we are working hard to provide continuous education for all our pupils. We are having to adapt to new circumstances, and with the continued support of our amazing school community, we can overcome the challenges ahead.

Please find a letter from NHS attached to this newsletter with details on the virus symptoms and action to be taken. We have also registered both schools with the NHS COVID-19 App and check in posters are displayed at the entrances to school.

If you have any queries, then please get in touch.

Becky Dhami

Executive Headteacher

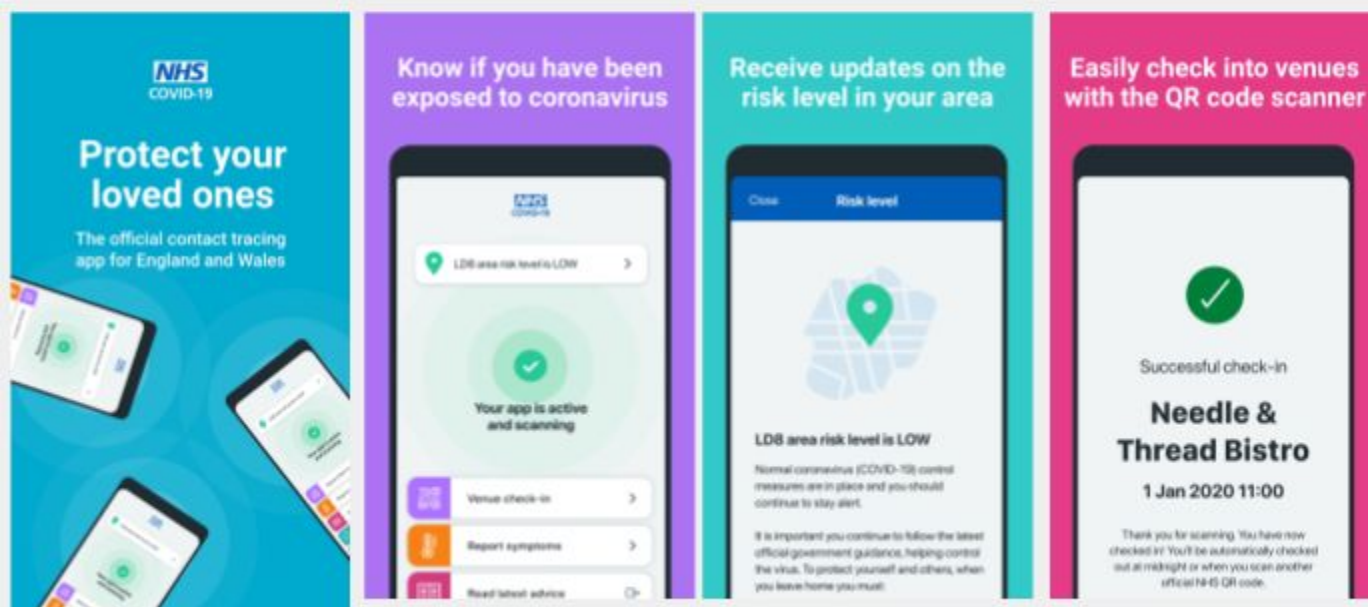
Please help keep our staff safe at drop off and collection times:



NHS Test & Trace App

To help support the effectiveness of the NHS Test & Trace App we have a school QR code at both schools. If you come onto the school grounds at any time and have a mobile device with the NHS test and trace app downloaded, please scan the code that is located on both entrances to "check in".

More information about the app is available here: <https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/nhs-covid-19/>





Road Safety.

After having such a long time at home recently it is crucial to remind everyone of the importance of road safety. Juggling social distancing and remembering safe road practices whilst on the school premises can sometimes be a challenge. The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership have sent an information leaflet outlining the main things to remember to keep you and your children safe. the leaflet includes a helpful rule of 6, pictured below, which you can share with your child to remind them of the main safety rules. The leaflet is attached to this week's email to read in full.

1. Stay close to your adult when near to the road. ✓
2. Always STOP before crossing a road. ✓
3. LOOK all around you for vehicles before stepping onto a road. ✓
4. LISTEN carefully for traffic whilst looking. ✓
5. THINK - is it safe to cross? ✓
6. Walk sensibly straight across, never run! ✓

Birth Certificate reminder!

Please remember that if your child is new to school or has just started in Reception we must see evidence of their birth certificate **as soon as possible**.

As we are trying to reduce physical paperwork due to Covid, we would advise that you send a copy via email. The email addresses to send these to are :

North Cockerington : enquiries@north-cockerington.lincs.sch.uk

East Wold: enquiries@east-wold.lincs.sch.uk



If you are unable to email a copy of this, please contact the relevant school and we can advise further.

Meningitis

Meningitis is a serious illness and can be very quick to develop in both children and adults. According to the NHS website, Meningitis is "an infection of the protective membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord (meninges)".

The earliest signs can be :

- Fever
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Muscle Pain
- Stomach Cramps
- Fever but with cold hands and feet

Children can also often be very lethargic or unresponsive. They may also be behaving in a manner completely out of character.

We have attached a helpful leaflet to this week's newsletter that explains some of the most common symptoms. It may be useful to print and keep somewhere visible at home as a reminder of what to look out for.

You must **'trust your instincts'** when it comes to signs of illness and it is crucial you **do not wait for the rash to appear** if you do suspect Meningitis, as this is often **the last sign to show**. Speed in diagnosis is crucial and if you think you or your child may have meningitis you must:

"Call **999** for an ambulance or go to [your nearest A&E](#) immediately if you think you or your child might be seriously ill.

Call [NHS 111](#) or your GP surgery for advice if you're not sure if it's anything serious or you think you may have been exposed to someone with meningitis."

Autumn/Winter



We would just like to remind you that we are now into Autumn and the weather is starting to change. This year will be different to most as the government have insisted that we keep all windows open within the classrooms and staff areas. Please ensure your child has an appropriate amount of warm layers underneath their school uniform and that they bring a weather proof coat with them,

Wellies :



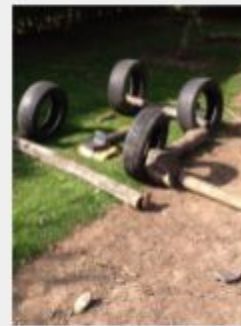
It would be useful for children in Willow(East Wold) and Robins(North Cockerington) to bring to school a pair of wellies, or suitable outdoor shoes, that they can leave on site. This is to protect their school clothes and shoes when exploring outdoors in the winter months. Please ensure these are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Robin Class - Reception and year 1

Our little "Robins" have been busy this week enjoying the new shop role play area. It has been lovely to see how creative and imaginative our pupils have been whilst developing their communication and language skills. Role play is an excellent way for children to learn how to work together and brainstorm solutions for situations that may arise. These skills are valuable not only in the classroom but also in later life!



Down in the woodland we've been busy investigating how to get around... Can you build something that can transport us to who knows where? How many wheels will we need? How big does it need to be? How many seats?... so many questions... We were impressed with the team work and the result!



Kingfisher Class - I am Warrior!

As part of this term's topic work, Kingfisher class have been looking at how the Romans lived many years ago and how they decorated their surroundings using mosaics.

Here are some of the creations our pupils have designed following their research into the topic:



Owl Class - Topic Work

This week Owl class have been looking at posters from WW2. They have created some fantastic designs.

