

Chopps Chat

September 2020

Headteacher's Comment

It is great to be back and have all the children in school. The children have settled well and are getting used to being back in school and the routines for each week.

In the next few weeks you will receive an invitation to meet your child's class teacher to discuss how they have settled and how they are getting on with their work. We will be doing these with plenty of safety measures in place to ensure everyone is safe. We believe these Assertive Mentoring meetings are very important to help with communication between school and home. If you can't attend for any reason please make sure that you re-arrange a suitable time with your class teacher.

We are constantly looking at our procedures and practices around COVID-19 and will sometimes have to make changes to these. You will find in this newsletter some changes we think are necessary to help create a safer school and an environment that is better for the children to succeed.

Thanks

Mr D. Nelson



Music Award for school

We have received the Music Mark for school due to the value that we place on music and our commitment to a broad and balanced curriculum. This award comes from the UK Association for Music Education.

Woodland Trust Platinum Award

We have been awarded the prestigious Woodland trust Platinum Award. Schools are rewarded for doing environmental projects such as tree planting, reducing CO2 emissions and visiting woods. We have collected points for activities completed. Well done to Miss Brown for organising and submitting the evidence to receive this award.

COVID-19 Measures

We have been back for just over 2 weeks now and the children have settled well. On Thursday there was an announcement for the North East to have stricter lockdown regulations. At present this does not impact on school and we will continue with our COVID procedures to ensure we continue to keep everyone as safe as we can.

We need you to continue to support us during this difficult time and follow the guidelines and practices we have set out. These include:

Social distancing - whilst on the yard you need to keep your distance (2m) from others, especially near the KS2 gate. I do not want to follow the lead of other schools and insist on facemasks but you need to adhere to our practices. The boards on the yard are there to help remind you.

Class 'Bubbles' - when dropping off and collecting the children please make sure you use the correct gate and wait outside of the buffer zone. The buffer zone is to help with social distancing and safeguarding, making sure the children go to the correct parents etc.

One adult to pick up - only one adult per child/family is to collect from any door at any one time. There have been incidences where people have been in the incorrect yard or even people on site whose children do not attend the school. We will politely remind you if we see this happening.

Please continue to support us with the measures we have put in place, as we work through these uncertain times. We really do not want to have close parts of the school, resulting in the children being at home for another length of time. I am sure you don't want that either ;)

Absence Reporting

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason please make sure that you contact school to let us know. We have an answerphone service (option 1) which has been set up to help with this. Please leave a message and if we need to call back for more information then we will do so.

It is your responsibility to inform school if your child is going to be absent or late.

Changes to school timings

We have reviewed our practices over the past couple of weeks and have decided that we need to make changes to our school timings and procedures for drop-off and pick-up. Please read the following carefully:

School Timings (from Monday 21st September)

Class Group	Drop off/Pick up	Entrance	Start time	Finish time
Little Learners	Staff Car Park	Little Learners door	9.00am	11.55am
Nursery	Staff Car Park	Early Years door	8.55am	11.50pm
Reception	Staff Car Park	Early Years door	8.50am	3.15pm
Year 1/2	KS2 Yard	Y1/2 gate	8.50am	3.15pm
Year 3/4	KS2 Yard	KS2 Yard door	8.55am	3.25pm
Year 5/6	Main Entrance	Main Entrance	8.55am	3.30pm

** Breakfast club still starts at 8.15. Children enter through the KS2 Yard door.

We hope that these changes will make the morning and afternoon routine smoother and stop people from having to hang around too much and prevent crowding and lack of social distancing.

Please also remember the following:

- In accordance with Government Guidance, parents are not able to routinely enter the school building. (Parents should only enter school sites by advanced appointment)
- Parents and children are to wait, with 2m social distancing, on the yard for their child's entrance point. For exit please wait, with 2m distancing, we will release children to the parent/carer in the exit points. Please DO NOT wait on the pavement but on the school yard.
- Children on entry to school will wash their hands on entering and exiting the school.

- **PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE TOO EARLY FOR DROP OFFS AND PICK UPS AS THIS MAY CAUSE CONGESTION. ADULTS TO KEEP 2M APART WHILST WAITING WITH YOUR CHILDREN**
- To help with congestion we will be opening our class doors 5 minutes early to ensure that children can be dropped and left smoothly. This soft opening will help with the flow of children and allow it to be less busy.
- **LATE ARRIVALS** If your gate is closed you will need to bring your child to the Main Entrance and buzz for information – this may require you to meet at your child's designated entrance.

Admissions Portal

The NCC Admission Portal is now open. This is for the children entering Reception and Year 7 next academic year. It is an online system which can be accessed by the link below:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1.aspx>

If you have any queries regarding this please phone the office and speak to Mrs Stephenson.

After School Clubs

Monday

Mini-band with MPN: 12.30—1.00 (Y3/4)

Tuesday

Football with NUFC: 3.30—4.15 (KS2)

Wednesday

Gymnastics with All-Star: 12.15—12.45 (Y3/4)

Dance Club with All-Star: 3.30—4.15 (KS2)

Thursday

Performing Arts with All-Star: 3.30—4.30 (KS2)

Friday

**** More clubs will follow.**

The numbers able to attend clubs has had to be capped due to the COVID guidance. This means that numbers for some clubs have had to be capped.




About us

 Facebook  @choppingtonps

Choppington Primary is a school at the heart of the community of Choppington, Northumberland. We are a school where every child is encouraged to achieve their very best. This is a happy, vibrant place to learn – we aim to give children the skills for life and a wealth of memorable experiences.

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