



Our Ref: AJC/MS

2 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: World Mental Health Day

On **Friday 9 October 2020**, we will be taking part in different activities throughout the day to support 'World Mental Health Day.'

We work closely with a number of organisations and Young Minds are promoting, 'Hello Yellow' day. The idea being to brighten up a school day for young people's mental health.

Therefore, we are inviting the children to wear something yellow for the day. **Please note, they must wear their normal full school uniform.** However, they can substitute **one** item for something yellow – for example, they might replace their normal school jumper for a yellow jumper or their socks for some yellow socks. **Can I re-iterate, that this is not a non-school uniform day.**

We hope you will join us in supporting this very important cause.

Linked to this, we have also set up a new tab on our website. This is called 'Mental Health Support' and can be found in the 'parent Information' section. We will add any useful documents as and when we receive them.

Walk to School Week

Just a reminder that we have been invited to participate in a national Walk to School Week campaign, a free sustainable travel initiative starting on **Monday 5 October 2020**.

North East Lincolnshire Council and its regeneration partner, ENGIE, are supporting the campaign and encouraging all schools and nurseries in the area to take part. During Walk to School Week pupils will be encouraged to walk, scoot or even cycle to school. Additionally, they are also offering £1,000 worth of vouchers for the school/nursery that gets the highest percentage of pupils traveling sustainably during the week, as well as £250 worth of vouchers for the school/nursery which comes second and third.

Please note, where children do not normally ride to school on their own, they must ensure that they are still accompanied by an adult.

We also do not have additional storage facilities for bikes or scooters. Therefore, can I please state that our emphasis is to encourage the pupils to walk to and from the Academy during the week.

Not only will this be good for the environment but will also help our drive to support children with their fitness.

Obviously, many families do this anyway, which we actively encourage at all times. I will update you on our figures and let you know if we win any prizes!

The New Gate

The new gate seems to have had a very positive impact and eased the pressure on the KS1 playground. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Linked to this, you will have noticed that we are now putting cones in our main entrance. As mentioned previously, this is to stop cars turning around, putting children, parents and staff in danger.

In addition, you might have noticed our PCSO patrolling at different times to ensure cars are not parking dangerously or illegally. I have asked her to do this as often as she can, again for everyone's safety.

Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality are generally very good at the moment. However, we regularly have a small minority of children who are arriving late, in some cases, regularly more than 10/15 minutes late. This causes a lot of disruption for the administration team and custodians as they have to keep interrupting their normal work to attend to latecomers at the main gate. More importantly, those children are missing vital learning time. The first session of the day focuses on reading and phonics. Regular lateness to school means those children are continuously missing vital teacher input. This is particularly important in light of the children missing so much of their education throughout the lockdown period. Any children who are repeatedly late for school will be reported to the Educational Welfare Officer.

Parent Consultation Evenings

Normally at this time of year, we would be holding meetings with you all in person. Obviously, we cannot do this at the moment.

Therefore, I have asked teachers to ring all parents of children in their classes between now and the end of term. Obviously, this is a lot of phone calls for one person. Where it is not possible for them to make contact with you or you are unavailable for the call before half-term, they will make contact after half-term.

And Finally

I just want to re-iterate again how impressed I have been with the children this half-term. The vast majority are working extremely hard and are showing a superb attitude to their education. If we all keep working together, we will keep making dents in the time lost during the lockdown period.

Yours faithfully



Mr A J Clark
Principal