

Newsletter
Monday 14th
September
2020

● ● ● What an incredible start!!!

Wow everyone! Firstly can I apologise for the late arrival of my first newsletter; it's been an incredibly busy start to the year and under the current climate we had to act swiftly last week to make some changes following our first positive case of Covid-19. Anyway now we are settled back down and school life continues. I just wanted to say a special thank you to all the children for making the school come alive again in the first couple of weeks. It's been a frantic time but the children have brought such energy, enthusiasm and excitement back into the building and we've absolutely loved every moment of them returning. Special thank you and well done to all the new children who have arrived too. More characters and more fun for us all!!

Individual Photographs ● ● ●

We have the school photographer coming in on Friday 25th September. They will be here all day taking individual photographs of all the children in school. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions we won't be having family pictures this year, just individual ones. Hopefully this won't deter you from getting your child's picture at the beginning of a new year.



● ● ● Parent Governor Vacancy



As a school we have a governing body who are responsible for much of the decision making in the school. Whilst the day to day responsibility of running the school is down to me and the fantastic team we have in school, a lot of the decision making and policies are agreed and ratified by the governing body. We currently meet 6 times a year and governors arrange visits into school at least once a term (Covid restrictions may limit this and they may be remotely done instead). Anyway we have a vacancy for a parent governor to come and join us. We have a number of active parent governors already and we'd love someone to join the team. For now I am just seeing if anyone has an initial interest in the school and wants to find out a little bit more. If you do then please feel free to come and discuss with me or you can email myself or our chair of governors for more information. We'd love you to join the team!!

Chair of governors: Mrs Layla Johnson, email: layla.johnson@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk;

Social Distancing on School Grounds ● ● ●

This is just a polite request for all parents and carers who drop off and collect in school. Can I ask that you please respect the space of others and keep 2 metres apart at all times. Ideally only 1 person collecting as this reduces greatly the number of people on the school premises. Can I also ask that parents and carers don't congregate outside the school gates as this needs to be kept clear for people leaving school. Thank you so much for your efforts so far, they are greatly appreciated.



● ● ● Covid-19 Test Information



Honestly I don't want a newsletter dominated by Covid-19 information but can I ask that if you or your child are being tested, can you let us have the results and outcomes of these as quickly as possible. This obviously plays a key part in what we must do next to keep the school safe and the risk of infection as low as possible.

After School Clubs ● ● ●

I know that a number of you have been asking me about after school clubs and when or if they will start up again. The current situation is being reviewed weekly and at the moment we are wanting the children to settle back into learning and school life before we jump into running clubs after school. The timetables and running of the school day are going to be reviewed this week by our team of teaching staff to ensure we have maximised all the learning opportunities. Once we have this right and we monitor the current risks then we will look at how feasible it is to run an after school club in each bubble. Watch this space everyone, if we can manage it safely then we will do it but not at this point, we just need to get school running smoothly!!



Parents Meetings

We are currently discussing how we can successfully meet parents and carers in the first half term of the year. Ideally we want to have some contact with you all to let you know how well your child / children are settling back into school life. At the moment we will not be able to have a traditional face to face parents meeting so we are looking at other options including remote meetings or phone calls. What I can guarantee is that before half term there will have been some effective communication between teachers and parents to discuss how well your children have settled into school life.



After the Fall



As a large number of children have not been in formal schooling for almost 6 months it is a strange time to be in school and trying to understand where children are working at. Primarily for us as a school team we want to focus on the children's emotional well being and make sure they are happy, confident and secure to be back in school. It is such a change of routine and without any of this, we can't really focus on learning. You may have heard your children talk about a book called 'After the Fall' it is a twist on the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty and looks at how we can cope with trauma and fear and how we can pick ourselves up after a fall. We felt this was a really fitting and appropriate way to start the year and to talk about how the Covid-19 restrictions, lockdown, home schooling and time away from school has impacted on our lives. We have been looking at this book all through the school and it has been a brilliant way to open the door to learning, alongside dealing with the challenges of the past few months. The children have been incredibly reflective and inspiring. Nothing changed there then!!

And Finally...

That's it for the first instalment everyone. Now we have a very clear plan for each day; staggering is working really smoothly and the children are brilliant at playing in their zones or bubbles and the daily handwashing, cleaning routines are becoming part of everyday life, with a bit of learning thrown in for good measure! We look forward to a sunny and dry week in school and the excitement and buzz of your children coming in I will never tire of. This is my 17th year at Dee Point and whilst it is nothing like any other year in terms of how we have to plan our school day, I promise you the excitement, love and enthusiasm I have for seeing the children never goes away, it's magical!

Please, if you have any questions or concerns, you can always come and find me in the mornings or after school out on the playground or feel free to email me at the following address:

head@deepointprimary.cheshire.sch.uk; Have a wonderful week everyone, we're so pleased and delighted to be back at school and look forward to a fabulous Autumn Term together.

Kind regards

Dave Williams (Headteacher)

