EMMAVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I really hope you had a lovely Christmas with your family and friends. The children seem to have had a good holiday, they were buzzing with excitement on their return to school, eager to share their news.

Unfortunately, it has not been the easiest start to the term as we have had children absent from school because of the virus, and a number of members of staff have also had COVID. Although, it is not ideal having a supply teacher covering a class as it can be rather unsettling for everyone, fortunately, so far, we have been able to secure supply teachers who are familiar to the children. My first priority is to try to ensure continuity and stability for the children; however, it is proving rather tricky as demand for supply teachers is increasing due to the Omicron variant. I know that you will appreciate the difficulties that schools are currently having to face, and I thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Precautionary Measures

Once again, we will be moving forward with caution, continuing with existing measures in place and restricting the number of visitors into school. Arrangements for the drop off and collection of children will remain the same, classrooms and areas of school will be well ventilated, good levels of hygiene will be encouraged, and we will continue to significantly limit any mixing of classes inside the school building. I am sure you will understand why we are doing this as we very much want to keep the school open.

We will do everything that we can to keep everybody as safe as possible, informing families as and when guidance is changed.

This newsletter contains some important information about the recent changes that came into effect on the 11^{th} January. The 3 flow charts attached will be a useful reference point for all of our families.

Home Learning

We are aware that some children having to isolate due to the virus, may feel well enough to engage with remote learning. Please be aware that there is no expectation for children who are ill to complete work as the most important thing is for them to recover from the illness.

Class teachers will therefore continue to publish timetables and resource sheets on the Pupil, Home Learning 2021 -2022 section of the website. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with school if you require support with technology or resources.

Entrance into the Key Stage 1 yard

Year 1 and Year 2 parents are asked not to enter the school yard on a morning until the main school pedestrian gate opens. We ask that Year 2 parents do not enter the yard until the Year 1 children have gone into their classrooms. Parents should not be entering by the double gates and we politely ask you not to use those gates for access.

We ask that all parents & carers cooperate with our requests as it is frustrating some of our families that not all adults are adhering to the school procedures and we have received a number of complaints.

Please let us work in harmony together for the benefit of our children.

Best wishes,

Avril Armstrong



Stars of the Week

Head Teacher - Leo (South America) For his politeness and for the way that he treats others. You are such a lovely boy Leo.

> North America - Lucy For beautiful explanations in Guided Reading.

South America - William For blowing us away in Maths lessons.

Antarctica - Ethan For having a fantastic attitude to school and learning.

> Oceania - Ivy For dedication and effort in lessons.

Africa - Lydia For settling in to our new class brilliantly.

Asia - Orla For outstanding work at home following our Geography lesson in school. Fabulous.

Northern Europe - Drew For his excellent contributions in class discussions. Especially in this week's PSHE lesson!

> Southern Europe - James For being so mature and sensible.

Northern Ireland - Finley For working independently in class.

Wales - Erin For her super listening in Phonics.

England - Frankie For his fantastic listening skills and attitude to learning.

Scotland - Jaxon For writing some amazing sentences in English this week.

Gateshead - Freddie For his super phonics and amazing listening ears.

Newcastle - Rosie For brilliant recall of 'Peter and the Wolf'!

Crawcrook Nursery - Thea For an amazing first week in zebra group!

School Cook - Harry (Northern Ireland) and Lilyann (Northern Europe) For beautiful manners at lunchtime.