



Mowbray Primary School
Stakeford Lane
Guide Post
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

22 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carers

Thank you all for your support this half term.

Staffing Updates

As you know, Mr Todd, our caretaker for the past six years, retired at the end of the summer term but returned to help us out while we were awaiting our new caretaker's start date to come through. We are pleased to say that Mr King has now started work and is settling into his new role.

We are pleased to announce that Mr Davison will be taking two weeks paternity leave after half term as his wife will be having their first child at the end of half term. This has come earlier than planned though which means Mr Davison will not be available for parent consultations now on Thursday 4 November as planned. Please note that if you have made an appointment for this date with Mr Davison these have now been cancelled. A new appointment date and times will be sent out for Mr Davison once he returns from paternity leave. In Mr Davison's leave of absence, Mulberry Class will be taught by Miss Williamson. Miss Williamson has done some work in school this year already and is familiar with the children in Mulberry Class.

Olympic Athlete Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who helped support school through their sponsorship of our day with the Olympic Pole Vault last month. In total £729.04 was raised which gave the school £233.12 to spend on new sports equipment.

Playground Climbing Frame

You will have noticed the new climbing equipment being constructed this week. I'm sure you will agree it looks fantastic and the children are very excited about using it after half term. Once again, thank you for this as it was only possible due to the support of PTA fundraising events and the mammoth amount raised during last summer's sponsored run.

Once it is fully up and running after half term, children will be able to use it at playtime and lunchtimes. If it is used before or after school, this should only be with strict parent/carer supervision.

☎ 01670 823198

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New Timetables for PE

Please find attached the timetables for PE with our specialist teachers. Forest School will now no longer change which day it is on. If you have any questions please contact your child's teacher.

Deadlines and Newsletters

As a polite request, we are asking that any deadlines published in relation to events (e.g. tickets or sales etc) be adhered to and information shared in letters be followed. Several events recently have seen large numbers of requests or attempted purchases come after deadlines have passed. In most cases sales and tickets have been open for several weeks and in the case of the Monster's Ball sales for refreshments were open for over 2 weeks. Stock was bought based on the number of sales. Unfortunately, yesterday over 20 additional purchases were attempted on the day – nearly two weeks after the deadline. While we do not wish to disappoint the children, this would easily have happened if staff had not gone out of their way to ensure it didn't. Similarly, the Harvest Assemblies had a number of people attend who had not read the arrangements or who had purchased the free ticket through Eventbrite. In some of these cases a small number of parents/carers have been aggressive and abusive towards staff members which will not be tolerated.

As we have moved to much of our communication being online – including purchases and bookings for events such as Harvest and Parent's Consultations we appreciate some parents/carers may have technological issues in accessing services at times. If this is the case, please contact the school office who will be happy to help in any way possible.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

When we return after half term we will be participating in the Poppy Appeal to support the Royal British Legion. This year, as well as poppies, we have also been provided with keyrings, wristbands and zip ties. All of these will be available daily for a donation. Donations in this case will be in cash and not through School Money.

Additional Covid-19 Measures

In the last ½ an hour Northumberland Schools have received notification from the County Council and Northumberland Public Health that we should re-introduce some of our Covid-19 restrictions after half term due to the rising case rates across Northumberland. I have attached their letter to this email for you to read. We did not relax all our procedures in September as you are aware. I will write straight away after half term to let your know how the additional measures will impact upon Mowbray. However, given the direction we have received today, **all parental consultations after half term will now be by telephone only.**

School Reopens on Monday 1 November 2021.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Miller
Headteacher

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