



NEWDIGATE CofE INFANT SCHOOL
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24th September 2020

Newsletter 1

Dear Parents,

It has been an absolute pleasure to be able to welcome back all of our pupils to our school this term; it is a joy to be complete again and come together as a community even in these challenging circumstances. This term we will be revisiting all of our bee rules, including our new rule 'be

Our value this half-term is love & compassion.



We show love and compassion for each other.

John 15:12

Love each other as I have loved you.

safe' and our value is **love and compassion.**

This week you will have received our topic planners for the relevant year group that will give you more information about our curriculum. We have also started to contact parents to 'check in' about their children's transition and discuss their well-being and engagement with you so that we can give them the very best start to the year.

Thank you for working with us to do this.

Assemblies

We are continuing to hold daily assemblies for our children, just not as a whole school or in larger groups. We will focus on our school value, celebrate successes in our 'Busy Bee' assembly, learn more from Bible stories and follow the Diocesan suggested planning when we can. Although we cannot gather to hold a **Harvest assembly** this year, we will be spending time with the children thinking about this important time of year and will be collating a recorded celebration that we will share with you before the end of the half-term.

Covid Information

We have now adapted and changed our school risk assessment after running our full opening for a few weeks. This is available for you to look at on the parent section of our school website, along with other resources related to our school Covid recovery response, we hope you find them useful. <https://www.newdigateschool.org.uk/covid-19-information/>

Finally, there are many differences and changes to our school organisation that resulted in additional demands in our day but also some silver linings. Our school is generally feeling very calm and peaceful; thank you for your support in making this happen. We received a 'spot-check' call from HSE last week who confirmed they were happy with our arrangements, so thought I would share that with you. We are disinfecting our indoor and outdoor equipment at the end of each day so would be very grateful if you could hold onto small children and stop them from playing or touching things as they wait or leave the site.

- *Make sure you follow the **social distancing expectations** when dropping off and picking up*
- *Only **1 parent** to come to school for drop-off and pick-up times*
- *Aim to send the children into school each day with **freshly washed clothes** (school uniform)*
- *Bring a named water bottle in each day*
- *Help your child to **calmly, quietly and quickly** join their class*
- *Explain that there are many changes but they will soon get used to them as they have with many other changes in our world at the moment*
- *Only bring your child to school if they are **healthy and free of symptoms of any illness** (please see associated posters from the NHS that give clearer directions relating to colds and sniffles)*
- ***Drop off and collect your child promptly** should we have concerns about your child's health.*
- ***Bring your child to school within the specified drop of times and collect at the specified time** (If you are, please go to the office)*
- ***Leave the school grounds swiftly** to ensure social distancing*
- ***Follow all government rules** especially about social distancing out of school, to protect yourself and your family, which in turn will protect all the school children, staff and their families.*

We have also been asked by the NHS to share information with you about the new NHS App, a fact sheet can be found at the address below and we would be happy to provide a printed copy if it is required. <https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/pdf/parents-carers-over16s-factsheet.pdf>

We have not put any dates in our diary this year other than the following INSET days as it does not seem appropriate at this moment:

Tuesday 1st September 2020
Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Friday 23rd October 2020
Monday 22nd February 2021
Wednesday 21st July 2021

Stay well and safe.

Paula Bliss

Love & Peace

Trust & Thankfulness

Forgiveness & Hope