CUMBERLAND INFANT SCHOOL

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 Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Herbert BEd

Friday 6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another week at school comes to an end and a lockdown begins, the children have settled back after half term into life at Cumberland with ease, enjoyment and happiness ( most of the time!). All year groups as always have thoroughly enjoyed discovering what their new Topics are. Year R are already absorbed in their 5, 4,3,2,1 ‘Blast Off’ Topic all about space and there has been lots of retelling of the ‘Whatever Next’ story. Year 1 have been thrown back in time with their ‘London Burning’ Topic. Year 2 I know have been enthralled with the mystery of the ‘Potato Robbery’ this week and have already been thinking of the jacket potato fillings they need to make to help Mr Potato Head get his features returned!

I have had the delight of a socially distanced, while wearing a visor, assembly all about remembering and Remembrance Day to each year group. All year groups have been busy making poppies to put up on their windows. Thursday morning is certainly one of the highlights of the week and this week the weather was so lovely while I taught the first athletics P.E. lesson with Year 2, the children had a fantastic lesson learning to hurdle! All the children wowed me with their determination, speed and enjoyment. My favourite moments of the week have to be Freya in Krave’s class winning dodge ball; the sheer delight on her face was priceless and another Year 2, Diti saying “Mrs Herbert you are so cute!” on completion of her P.E. lesson.

**COVID-19**

I would like to thank you so much for your response to my email on Sunday about wearing face masks at drop off and pick up of your child. Even if you are dropping off or picking up from Breakfast or After School Club, please wear a mask. When waiting in the queue to pick or drop off your child, although you are now wearing a mask, could you please also socially distance. All staff are now wearing masks in all shared areas, including the Hall plus at drop off and pick up times. On Thursday, the first day of lockdown, I was so impressed with the attendance in school and it remains above 95% since children returned in September. A real achievement and it is really helping the children to catch up with their learning.

**School Uniform**

The children are looking very smart in their Cumberland red uniform but please could you name all their uniform. After P.E. especially in Year R it is very hard to make sure each child has their uniform back on if it doesn’t have a name in it! Due to COVID-19, all classrooms have to be ventilated with their windows open. This does mean the classrooms will be colder than normal so please could you make sure your child has a few extra layers on!

**Hot Dinners**

The introduction of hot dinners is working extremely well. However, please ensure you return your child’s menu choices to ensure all children get their correct meal. The meals seem to be very popular with the children who enjoy eating them in their classrooms. Even Year 1 LSA’s were tempted to try roast day, especially the roast potatoes!

**Flu Jab**

Every year the children are offered a flu jab and this year your child will have the opportunity to have their nasal flu jab on Friday 11th December 2020. The school nurses explained that every so many years a selection of schools have the later dates and it was our year to be one of the schools to have the flu vaccination in December.

**Children in Need**

Next week on Friday 13th November we will be raising money for ‘BBC Children in Need’. We are fundraising by asking for a £1 donation from the Cumberland community to dress in sportswear of their choice. Each year group will be taking part in some sporty activities throughout the day. Next week the children will be taking part in the ‘Five to Thrive’ activities to encourage and boost physical and mental wellbeing.

**Website**

We are continuing to develop our website so please refer to it for INSET days, term dates, letters, COVID-19 and finding out about school life and what your child has been learning.

Thank you for your continued support.

**The Cumberland Team**