CUMBERLAND INFANT SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Herbert BEd

5th March 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

The Cumberland community have made it! I am really looking forward to welcoming you all back, from a distance, through the school gates and doors. If you feel your child may be more than a little nervous please do contact me [head@cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:head@cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk) . I am making a video tour of the school to reassure the children who have been learning from home that it hasn’t changed, which I’ll put on the website. This weekend it may be a good time for you to explore the website with your child as different photographs, videos and information are being added all the time.

We are all very excited to see all the children back learning in school, playing with their friends and just enjoying being back with all their class. In school we will be working tirelessly to prevent the risk of COVID-19. It is essential that all families work in partnership with the staff at Cumberland and play their part in reducing the risk as we really want the children to remain in school after the 8th March 2021.

**So below are some of the key reminders for parents to follow when dropping off and picking up your child/children. Please remember to:**

* Wear your face mask at all times when dropping off and picking up, including for Breakfast and After School Club
* Keep 2m from other families by standing on the spray painted lines
* Keep your distance from staff and email or telephone the school to send messages
* Arrive as close to your child’s drop off and pick up times as possible
* Wash your hands and your children/child’s hands before leaving your house
* Keep your child off school if you they are unwell in anyway
* Book your child or anybody in your family a test if they have a temperature, consistent cough or lose their sense of taste or smell
* Keep your child at home if anybody in your household is waiting for a test result
* Please avoid breaking all the school class bubbles by going to the park by Eastney Health centre before/after school

Our updated risk assessment has been added to our website under the COVID-19 tab.

**Lateral Flow testing for parents**

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. Test kits can either be collected or ordered online. Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles. Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly.

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| * through your employer, if they offer testing to employees * by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests * by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most |

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

**P.E kit**

As the weather can’t decide what it is doing and the temperature has dropped again, please ensure your child/children have a warm jumper, fleece or hoody, leggings or joggers and trainers or plimsolls in their P.E bag.

**RNLI**

Thank you to everybody who filled a RNLI jar full with five pence pieces. I know this money will be greatly appreciated and Mrs White one of the Learning Support Assistants in The Crunchy Nut Cornflakes has delivered them. A special Wow for Evie Wharton and family who collected a backpack of full jars of five pence pieces and dropped them at school with such pride and enthusiasm.

The Cumberland staff would like to thank you for your continual support if your child has been learning in school or at home remotely. I hope to add an assembly all about WOW on the website by next week to thank all the children, parents and staff for the huge effort everybody has played in assisting the children in succeeding so well with their learning.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning at your staggered drop off and pick up time.

**YR 8.50 drop off and 3.15 pick up.**

**Y1 8.40 drop off and 3.05 pick up.**

**Y2 9.00 drop off and 3.25 pick up**

If your child has been attending school, go back to the drop off and pick up points your child’s class were using before Christmas.

Cheerios, Frosties and Sugar Puffs at the pencil gate and black gate on Methuen Road.

Rice Krispies, Crunchy Nut Cornflakes and Kraves at the green door Reginald Road.

Becky Herbert