

22nd October 2020

## Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this half term, I would personally like to thank each and every one of you for supporting me in my role as the new Head Teacher of Durham Lane. The children have welcomed me with open arms and I am so honoured to be their Head Teacher. They impress me every day with their work ethic, attitude towards their learning and impeccable manners.



I have started to make some changes at Durham Lane and I really appreciate all your feedback.

## Parent Consultation evenings

Staff will also be hosting Zoom parent consultations on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November**. On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November a booking form will be placed on each of the teachers window for you to book a parent consultation zoom meeting. Please could you use your own pen when booking in a time slot? (Due to Covid-19). Teachers will be offering a 10 minute consultation appointment. Prior to the meeting an interim report will be sent home to share with you your child's targets, attitude towards learning and any areas of development.



## Worn Wellies

We would like to develop the Early Years outdoor area. As part of this we would like all children to have appropriate water proof clothing and wellies. We have purchased 30 water proof coats and trousers. However, wellies are proving rather expensive, therefore if you have any old wellies which you no longer need, could you please send them in for our Early Years children.



## Early Years Playground – Green Containers

Last week we welcomed Robert from CL Prosser who has agreed to take the two large green containers off the school site. Not only did he agree to take them away for free he even offered the school £1,000 for the pleasure of them. This donation will help to support our new exciting ideas with the development of the Early Years outdoor provision.



## Nursery 30 hour provision

We are currently at the planning stage of offering a 30 hour provision to our Nursery children. If any parents would be interested in this offer, could you either phone me or email me on [helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk) to discuss your possible requirements.

## Sponsored Fun Run

Thank you so much for everyone who has sponsored their child to take part in our sponsored fun run. So far we have raised .....



## Poppies

This week and after half term, we will be selling poppies and other items on behalf of the British Legion.

Recommended donations:

- Zip pull 50p
- Poppies 20p
- Wrist bands £1.00
- Reflector 50p
- Snap bands £1.50





## Home Learning Arrangement

We have recently reviewed our home learning procedures and our pupil engagement expectations in response to the need to provide education for children who are self-isolating or in case of the closure of a school bubble. All children will have had their QR code sent home. The children have had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Seesaw learning platform. So far the feedback is very positive and the children are enjoying the way they can effectively communicate with their teachers and get feedback on their learning. There are 3 levels of support that we will provide.

**1. A child is ill.** No work will be sent home.

**2. A child is isolating.** An email with website links will be sent home for day 1 of isolation. Day 2 home learning will be sent home daily via the Seesaw app. Children will be expected to complete this work and they will be responded to at the end of the school day by the class teacher. New learning will be set daily. We will try as much as possible to link this work with the curriculum being delivered in school so that the children do not miss too much of the taught curriculum.

**3. A bubble needs to close due to Covid-19 Risk Assessment** – Day 1 an email with website links will be send home for day 1 of isolation. Day 2 class teachers will send home learning via the Seesaw app. Children are expected to complete this within the school working day. A mixture of Zoom lessons and online learning will be expected.



## Goodbye

This week we had to say a sad goodbye to Mrs Adamson. Mrs Adamson has been part of the Durham Lane Family for 21 years. She has been an intrinsic part of the team and we would all like to thank her for everything she has done over the years.

We will miss you tremendously!  
Enjoy your retirement!



## Facebook

We have also set up a Durham Lane Community Facebook page which will be primarily used for any school news or updates. You can find us if you search for Durham Lane Primary School; please like and share our page. Could I please kindly ask you to refrain from making any negative comments on any social media platform. If you have any concerns, please contact me directly as I will be more than happy to deal with them.



## Covid-19 testing

If your child is waiting for a Covid-19 test result, could you please email me the result, even if it is over the weekend or during half term. My email address is [helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk) If your child is currently living with a household member or sibling who is waiting for a test result, once that result has been confirmed, please let me know, in accordance with the up to date guidelines which can be found on the school website.

## Thank you

Any questions or queries you may have, please don't hesitate to speak to me on the playground, email me on the address below or call the school office for an appointment.

Kind regards,

Mrs H Gregory

[helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk](mailto:helen.gregory@sbcschools.org.uk)

I hope you all have a wonderful October half term, stay safe and see you all on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

