



DELVES LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Delves Lane, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 7ES

Head Teacher: Mrs R A Woods

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LEARN, ACHIEVE, INSPIRE

Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

We would like to praise all of our families who have worked hard to keep everyone safe since our children returned to school at the beginning of the Autumn term. Many parents and carers have:

- Acted quickly if any of your children have shown symptoms, organised for a test to be taken and self-isolated until results have been received.
- Swiftly collected any children from school when symptoms have developed during the school day and ensured your child has a test.
- Ensured that children have practiced good hand hygiene.
- Ensured that all children from year one upwards have accessed Google Classroom and are able to access learning from home.
- Nursery and Reception (Class 1 & 2) parents have engaged with Tapestry, the online journal which keeps you in touch with your child's day wherever you are. We have thoroughly enjoyed your contributions!

There are several aspects of our school's risk assessment which I would like to highlight to you as we move in to the winter months and in light of moving to Tier 4 – National Restrictions.

- Staggered collection at the end of the school day. To help reduce the number of adults on the school site at any one time, please avoid arriving early to collect your child/ren.
- Good ventilation is very important - Classroom windows will be open. Please make sure children come to school in warm clothing as we are now entering the colder season.
- Getting outdoors is very important, please ensure that children have a pair of wellies in school at all times. The school grounds can get quite muddy. Wellies can come to school in a carrier bag with your child's name on.
- Minimum equipment – where possible, can children come to school with only the essentials on a daily basis.

Anti-Bullying Day – Friday 20th November

Next Friday 20th November, children can come to school in non-uniform and **ODD SOCKS** to celebrate what makes us unique. The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is: United Against Bullying. "We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying." Children will be taking part in lots of activities to promote Anti-Bullying.

We agree with the Anti-Bullying Alliance that:

"This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge."

We look forward to seeing some fabulous ODD SOCK combinations!



Class 1 and 2 Remembrance Video call

We were so proud of how our youngest children showed their respects on Remembrance Day this week. First, we listened to Mrs Shaw play The Last Post on her cornet outside at 11am for our silence. We usually have a visit from a soldier into school so the children can ask questions, but this year was a little different. We were really lucky to be able to video call our friend Chris who is an active soldier on duty. He showed us his barracks and all his uniform. The children asked some fantastic questions and showed amazing respect and listening skills during our video call. We even learned how to salute! Well done Reception you did Delves Lane very proud!



Remembrance in Years 1 to 6

Children from Classes 3 to 14 have been taking part in online remembrance assemblies. The assemblies were provided by the DLI (Durham Light Infantry) collection, so focused on the contributions of local soldiers. One of these soldiers was Private Henry Edward Lee who fought in World war 1 and was killed in 1916 by a shell. His name can be found at memorials around Leadgate.

We would like to thank Mrs Shaw for braving the cold and playing the Last Post for us on the yard so that classes could open their windows and listen. This helped us to mark our two-minute silence. Thank you to all of the children for being so respectful during this time. We are going to be following this up with some remembrance workshops which will take place in school next week.



WORLD NURSERY RHYME WEEK 🌍

Next week, Nursery and Reception (Classes 1 and 2) are taking part in World Nursery Rhyme week! We have lots of exciting activities planned and on **THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER**, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite Nursery Rhyme character! These could include animals such as a sheep, lambs, little stars or even knights and princesses! Please don't worry if you are stuck for ideas, feel free to catch your class teacher who will be more than happy to help! We can't wait to see your costumes (and keep an eye out for the teachers too!)

Suggestions:

If you are stuck for ideas, suggestions could be pyjamas for Twinkle Twinkle or a starry top, wearing black for Baa Baa black sheep, a knight for Humpty Dumpty or the Grand Old Dule of York, farmers hat for Old McDonald, bring a bucket for Jack and Jill, pink for This little piggy or a doctor's outfit for Doctor Gloucester! Thank you from the Early Years Team!



Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day of your child's absence. Let them know that they won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, please inform the main school office. More information can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Google Classroom

We are really impressed with how many families are using Google Classroom. For technical support, parents can contact the school by e-mail: googlesupport@delveslane.school

This email will be checked regularly and actioned upon on a weekly basis by Mr Jones. Some teacher specific issues such as password resets will be forwarded to the relevant class teachers.

Thank you.

Breakfast and After School Childcare

We have a separate infant and junior breakfast club and children sit in their year group bubbles. Places are available in our Breakfast and After School Childcare Clubs. If you would like more information about this provision please contact the school office. To book a place in either club you can send us an email delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net or give us a call on 01207 503984. Breakfast Club is available every day and drop off times are between **7.50 and 8.00am only**.

After School Childcare is available **Monday to Thursday** every week from the end of the school day until 5.30pm.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We have vacancies on our Governing Body for Parent Governors. Parent Governors are in a unique position on a governing body. Not only do they have to work in the best interests of the school, but they have to balance this with their natural desire to see the best outcomes for their own child(ren).

Parent governors are:

- well placed to understand parents' views and to remind the governing body how matters being discussed affect parents;
- individuals! How you vote on any decision is up to you;
- in a good position to help the governing body to communicate effectively with parents;

If you are interested in becoming a Governor please contact the school for a nomination form by emailing delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net

Nominees must be proposed by a parent of a pupil registered at the school. A parent may nominate his/her partner. Where the number of nominations is equal to, or fewer than, the places available no ballot will be necessary and any remaining vacancies will be appointed by the Governing Body. We hope to hear from parents regarding this important role, thank you.

Updates from the Department for Education for Parents

The government have updated their guidance for parents and carers on what they need to know about schools during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This update provides information on the national restrictions that came into force on 5 November, the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people and advice on the use of face coverings in education settings. Here is a link to this information: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=12%20November%202020%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Thanks as always for your support. Take care and stay safe,

R Woods

Mrs R Woods
Head Teacher