



# 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 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

The weeks leading up to Christmas are normally some of our busiest and most enjoyable. It is apparent with the latest news from Government, that Christmas this year will not be what we are used to, however, we are determined to ensure the children receive the best possible experience at school, to put them in the festive mood!

We have already started to make plans to ensure that children get to take part in some festive events at school.

With new government restrictions in place until 2<sup>nd</sup> December, it is inevitable that further restrictions will remain in place if we want to spend time with our loved ones over Christmas.

We are also aware of the rising number of cases of COVID-19 in the local community. To keep everyone safe in our school community, we must all do our bit to keep everyone safe.

**Please can we strongly advise that ALL parents and carers wear a mask when on school grounds. The One-Way system is effective, but social distancing isn't always possible. When wearing masks, parents and carers are helping to keep all adults safe.**

**For the foreseeable future, we must insist that ONLY ONE ADULT TO collect their child/children from school, unless there are exceptional circumstances, which have been discussed with Mrs Woods or Miss Webb.**

### COVID-19 Emails

If you need to report any information to school regarding your child developing COVID-19 symptoms or isolating, then all emails can now be sent to our new email:

[covid19emergencies@delveslane.co.uk](mailto:covid19emergencies@delveslane.co.uk)

Emails can be sent at any time (including weekends) but are ONLY for COVID-19 related matters. Thankyou.

### Internet Safety

It has come to our attention that a number of children are using WhatsApp and TIKTOK outside of school. We strongly recommend that children do not access these platforms. Parents and carers need to closely monitor their child's internet use, in order to keep children safe online.

Advice about online safety can be found here:

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Supporting-Young-People-Online.pdf>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>



### myON

We have signed up to an online reading scheme called myOn. This links to our Accelerated Reader programme which already runs in school from Year 2 to Year 6 (Classes 5 to 14). Over the next week your child will come home with log in details. They will be set reading books to read linked to their reading age. On top of this they will have access to over 5,000 books to read in their free time. Children who are in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Classes 1 to 6) will continue to bring an actual school reading book home. These books match directly to the



phonic programme that is taught in Early Years and Key Stage 1. Follow the link below to find out more: <http://www.renlearn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Parent-Guide-to-myON-1.pdf>

### **Breakfast Club 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 email us on [clubbookings@delveslane.co.uk](mailto:clubbookings@delveslane.co.uk), which is our NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR CLUB BOOKINGS or give us a call on 01207 503984. Please can all bookings be made in advance. This email account will be checked during the school day.

### **Reception Places**

We have places for Reception for September 2021. The deadline for Applications for School for September 2021 is **Friday 15th January**. All Nursery Parents – please do not forget this important deadline. Missing this deadline could risk your chances of gaining your first-choice school.

### **Reception 2021 Virtual Zoom Meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 4:00pm**

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, we will have a zoom meeting for all prospective parents of Reception children. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet the key staff, have a virtual look round the Reception classes, hear all about us and our routines and also ask any questions you might have. As Head Teacher, I am also more than happy to have phone calls with any interested parents and answer any questions you may have. Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make, so you need to be sure it is the right one!

Details of the link will be forwarded to current Nursery parents; whose child is due to start in Reception in September 2021. Thank you.

### **Individual Photographs – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Phototronics will be coming to school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November to take our annual individual photos. As you can imagine, things will have to be different this year due to the restrictions around COVID19. Therefore, we are sorry to say we will be unable to have sibling photographs this year; we will not be able to welcome younger siblings into school for photos and we will not be able to have photos together of siblings who are in school. Whilst we understand this is disappointing for many parents, we cannot risk mixing bubbles through the school and although some siblings are in the same year group it would be unfair for them to be able to have photos taken together when other children cannot.

Obviously, we realise that some of you will be disappointed about this but we have, to the best of our ability, keep everyone safe in these strange times!

There **will not** be any PE lessons on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE CAN ALL CHILDREN WEAR THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR THEIR PHOTOGRAPH\*\*\*\*\***

### **Coats and Wellies**

The winter weather is very unpredictable and **ALL** children must come to school in warm winter coats. Getting outdoors is very important, and our school grounds can get quite muddy. Can you please ensure that children have a pair of wellies in school at all times. Wellies can come to school in a carrier bag with your child's name on. If children need to wear their wellies to walk to school, e.g. due to snowy weather, they must bring some indoor shoes to change into. Thank you for your support.

### **REMINDER - 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 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 to let us know that they won't be in, and the reason for their absence. We do have an answer machine for out of office hours, so please feel free to leave a message as necessary.

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/>

### **REMINDER 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](mailto: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.

**Anyone who is interested should contact the school office via email by Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November.**

### **Spare trousers for infant children**

Do you have any spare trousers for children aged 5 to 7 years? These would be gratefully received at school, thank you.

### **Children in Need 2020**

Thank you so much for your very kind donations. We raised the grand sum of £100.50 for this year's Children in Need Appeal!!!!

### **Christmas – Our plans to share our Christmas Festivities**

All parents/carers should have completed our annual Photograph and Video Consent form. We use this form to enable us to display photographs of your child(ren). The photographs are shared in school, on our Facebook page and website in order to celebrate their many achievements i.e. Star of the Week etc.

Due to the current pandemic, we will be doing things a little differently this Christmas. We have planned some lovely COVID-19 friendly Christmas events that we would love to share with you all. We cannot share these events on a public social forum (Facebook) however, we can share with you via Google Classrooms and Tapestry (these are safe and secure platforms). If you **have not** completed a Photo Consent Form then it is essential you do so, or you may miss out! If you have completed your form but **DO NOT** want us to share images of your child taking part in Christmas events, then it is **very important** that you notify us via email on [delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net).

**Emails to 'opt out' of sharing your child's image via Google Classrooms and Tapestry MUST be sent into school by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

Virtual events will be uploaded to Tapestry and Google Classrooms in the last week of term.

If you haven't signed up to Tapestry (Nursery, Class 1 & 2) and Google Classroom (Classes 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14) then you will need to in order to see our virtual festive events. Thank you.

Thank you as always for your kind support. Take care and stay safe,

*R Woods*

Mrs R Woods  
**Head Teacher**