



NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Interim Headteacher: Mr Peter Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME BACK

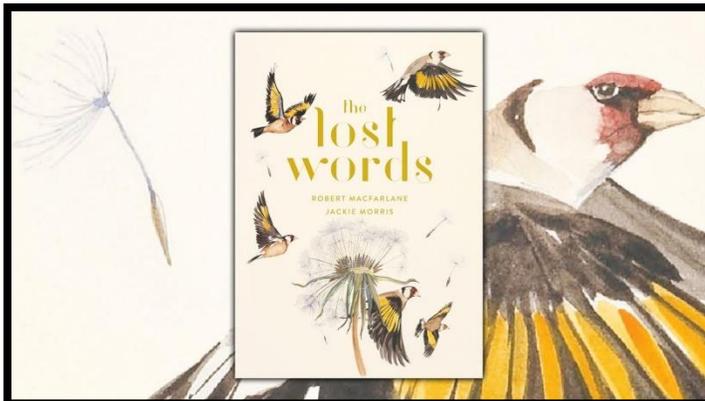
A very warm welcome back to a new school year at Newbottle & Charlton CEVA Primary School. It has been so lovely to see all the children back into school and to hear the laughter coming from classrooms. I know they have loved seeing their friends and all the staff in their bubble. For some, this will be the first time they have been to school since March.

Along with all the 19 new children and families we welcome into Reception (with 11 siblings this year), we also welcome into Year 5 Emily and a new member of staff- Miss Hannah Smith, who is our new SENDco and Birch class teacher.

I know you have had to read and process lots of information from me over the last few months and I appreciate you all following the new school arrangements in order to minimise the risk of the Covid-19 coming into our school. After discussions on procedures and protocols with staff and governors, I wrote to you with all the information we had put in place to welcome all the school back. However, the Dfe decided to change the 23,000 word opening guidance last Friday at 9pm. There were things I needed to revise in school and the main changes are linked to how schools will manage confirmed cases. I have attached the new information for you to read at the bottom of this letter, please disregard the previous guidance on this.

Teachers have been busy during the summer making the classroom ready for all children to come back in and planning activities to help children settle back into school life. The focus has been supporting them socially, emotionally as well as academically. Children will have a range of starting points in different subjects and teachers will be planning fun lessons to assess children informally so they can offer support and challenges, as they identify what the children have mastered and what they need to revise or consolidate. We will continue to support children with their wellbeing and mental health and hopefully this year we will be able to achieve our

gold award for TaMHS (Targeted Mental Health in Schools). We currently have achieved the silver award, presented to us by Northamptonshire Educational Psychology team.



Once again we start our year with a whole school project. This time it is based on a book called '**The Lost Words**'. Children have had to keep in their classes, but they have still been able to complete activities to launch this new topic, including observational drawing and nature spotting on a village walk.



At the start of the year we give out a range of paperwork including consent forms, information requests, agreements and policies. I am conscious of the amount of paper we normally give out to take home in the current climate. (Reception parents you received many of these back in July). Therefore, I have amalgamated a range of letter/agreements for you to sign. Please do carefully read through them and fill in key details we need to be aware of about your child. This can be done electronically and emailed back to the office or you can print it off and pop it into a box which will be in the front entrance. If you would like to have a paper copy printed off for you, please email the office.

As staff, we have reflected on how homework should work this year, due to the changes that have happened over the last few months. Please read the attached guide which will give details on how it has differed from last year. We still feel homework is an important way to help children revise and consolidate key concepts while also having opportunities to be creative. The major changes include- deciding on which homework task to complete each week from a range of activities, depending on the time the children have and resources you have available at home each week.

We will have our first Achievers Assembly on Friday 11th September but this will be completed virtually in the school without parents I am afraid. Details will be given out about who received achiever certificates in the newsletter. I would still like to encourage any children who receive certificates out of school to bring them in to share. These will be kept in their trays and shared in class. Please bring these in on a Thursday.

After School and Breakfast Club will continue as previously done before lockdown. If anyone new wishes to come along then do please speak to relevant staff, Polly, Mrs Beckhurst or Mrs Bray or phone to speak to the office. Details can be found on the website too about these facilities.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

On Tuesday, as staff we refreshed ourselves with the new Keeping Children Safe in Education document which has been revised for September 2020. In addition, all staff throughout the year will complete update training. It is an annual expectation for all staff to have a refresher in this area – never an easy area to discuss but one that is vital. This is such an important area within our role in school and the training provides us with reminders of the expectation that as staff we all have to ensure that all children are safe and protected from all forms of abuse and neglect. This is to be achieved in partnership with parents and carers. The school website has a tab for Safeguarding with guidance and advice in particular with online safety. A reminder for new parents that I am your designated safeguarding lead and Miss Melanie Hirst is my deputy. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

School Meals – Fresh Start

Reminder that in order for your child to have a school meal they must be ordered by the **previous Tuesday**. All pupils including those who receive free meals in Oak and Ash must order the meals please. If you are unsure of need some help, then contact the office who will be able to help you.

Healthy School

As a reminder we provide children with bottles for water for the classrooms and water is also provided for lunch. Along with milk and fresh fruit juice (including smoothies) these are the only drinks allowed in school as laid out in the school food regulations. We provide fruit for every child over the year – KS1 receive this free as part of the government scheme and for KS2 we ask for two payments of £10 over the year which is 185 pieces of fruit for £20. What a bargain! I would also like to continue to offer milk as an option and I know many of you have continued this from last year already.



If your child is having a packed lunch then this needs to be healthy and balanced in its content - crisps, chocolate, fizzy drinks and sweets are strongly discouraged and if provided done so as a treat, not on a daily basis. Children are in school for approx. 6 ½ hours and in that time we would like the children to be as healthy as possible developing good habits with diet and exercise and ask that you support us in this mission.

A reminder about the uniform policy, approved by the governors can be found on the website but in summary

- Grey/black smart trousers, shorts, dress or skirt;
- white or light blue polo shirt or shirt (these can be purchased with logos on from our online school uniform supplier but not necessarily needed),
- Royal blue cardigan or jumper – again logo'd ones are available from our online school uniform provider.
- Summer dresses may be worn again royal blue in colour.
- Smart school shoes also to be worn.
- No jewellery except watch and stud earrings.
- No extreme, fashionable haircuts and we encourage hair to be tied back if able with plain accessories.

Our main aim is that children look smart for school and proud of their appearance.

PE kits are able to be worn on classes PE days. Reminders will be given every week about which days these are. Please ensure PE kits fit the uniform policy and any joggers are plain and suitable for school. School jumpers and cardigans can be worn on PE days.

I am hoping this is the last long letter I will have to write to you for a while, and I look forward to just writing the weekly newsletter full of achievements and the full things we have been doing in school. The first 'official' newsletter of the year will be with you next week- it is important you read the weekly newsletter to be aware of what is happening in school week by week. Class letters will be out next Friday written by teachers, giving more specific information about what is going on in classes.

Usually at this time of year, I would write a dates for your diary/calendar with all the different things that are happening in school. At present no trips, extra-curricular activities or PE fixtures are able to happen, so my diary dates seem very blank at the moment. I will send information out with some key dates when needed in the newsletter and they will be put on the school website.

As ever, if you have questions or queries, do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards

Mr Peter Smith
Interim Head Teacher



Appendix 1:

Further/revised Guidance:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IF POSSIBLE SYMPTOMS OF COVID PRESENT

(Please disregard previous advice as some parts may now be incorrect)- Key changes or additions are in navy blue.

If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#), which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19).

If the test is negative the child can return to the setting assuming they are well enough. If the test is positive, schools will contact the local health care protection team. This team will also contact schools directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive attends the school. The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.

The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

- direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person

The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home. To support them in doing so, schools will keep a record of pupils and staff in each group, and any close contact that takes place between children and staff in different groups.

Household members of those contacts who are sent home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the child, young person or staff member who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms. If someone in a class or group that has been asked to self-isolate develops symptoms themselves within their 14-day isolation period they should follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They should get a test, and:

- if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days.
- if the test result is positive, they should inform their setting immediately, and should isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms (which could mean the self-isolation ends before or after the original 14-day isolation period). Their household should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, following guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection

Schools will not request evidence of negative test results or other medical evidence before admitting children or welcoming them back after a period of self-isolation.



In the majority of cases, schools and parents will be in agreement that a child with symptoms should not attend school, given the potential risk to others. In the event that a parent or guardian insists on a child attending school, schools can take the decision to refuse the child if in their reasonable judgement it is necessary to protect their pupils and staff from possible infection with coronavirus (COVID-19). Any such decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and the current public health advice.

Further guidance is available on [testing and tracing for coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).

Parents will be communicated by email and text to explain the outcomes and any procedures that need to be followed. **Please ensure you give your most up-to-date phone numbers to ensure we can communicate effectively.**

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age and needs of the child, with appropriate adult supervision if required. The designated room for this is **'The Orchard'**. Please collect your child by ringing the bell at the old blue door. If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom must be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE must be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs). More information on PPE use can be found in the safe working in education, childcare and children's social care settings, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance. Anyone with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms should not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

Any members of staff who have helped someone with symptoms and any pupils who have been in close contact with them do not need to go home to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves (in which case, they should arrange a test) or if the symptomatic person subsequently tests positive or they have been requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace.

Public Health England is clear that routinely taking the temperature of pupils is not recommended as this is an unreliable method for identifying coronavirus (COVID-19).